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AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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MARRIAGES.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, November 1st, 1898, BEATRIX STUART, elder daughter of Stuart ELDRIDGE, M.D., of Yokohama, Japan, to FREDERIO MAY, eldest son of Chevalier Henry TEGNER, of Copenhagen, Denmark.

On the 3rd November, 1898, at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., CHARLES HENRY GODFREY, Assistant Municipal Engineer, to MARY ELIZABETH, daughter of James Reynolds HEWLETT, Esq., Chicago, U.S.A., and adopted niece of Daniel Hewlett, Esq., of Barnwood Court, Gloucester, England.

At the Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 5th November, 1898, by the Rev. S. C. Partridge, American Church Mission, assisted by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, Chaplain, Miss LOULOU FAYETTE HACKER, of Cairo, Illinois, U.S.A., to ALBERT WHITNEY DANFORTH, of Lowell, Mass., U.S.A.

DEATHS.

At Tientsin, on Wednesday, October 26th, 1898, EDITH NIELIE, the dearly beloved wife of W. K. BRADGATE, aged 29 years and 7 months.

At Hankow, on the 1st November, 1898, H. H. HALL, in his thirtieth year.

At 19, Szechuen Road, Shanghai, on the 6th November, 1898, ALFRED WYNDHAM BOWMAN, aged 32 years.

At the Peak Hospital, Hongkong, on the 9th November, 1898, GEORGE FELIX MÜLLER, Commissioner I. M. Customs, Foochow, aged 50 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAIL.

The American mail of the 4th October arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 6th November (33 days); the French mail of the 7th October arrived, per M. M. steamer

Melbourne, on the 10th November (34 days); the American mail of the 11th October arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, on the 9th November (29 days); and the English mail of the 14th October arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Ballaarat*, on the 11th November (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

A political crisis has arisen at Seoul and a number of the Reform leaders have been arrested.

Placards intended to incite Chinamen against their rulers at Peking are being circulated at Singapore.

Mr. F. E. Taylor, Commissioner of Customs, Statistical Secretary, has taken over charge of the Customs at Shanghai during the absence on leave of Mr. Ls. Roohar.

The *Courier de Saigon* of the 29th October has a long article on Kwangchauwan, severely condemnatory of that new possession, which is represented as being worse than useless.

The Viceroy of Chihli has, we learn from the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, despatched an official with a detachment of cavalry to Lukao-shiao to put a stop to all further trouble on the railway line.

We learn than in consequence of the continual persecution of Christians in different parts of the Kwang provinces the Consular body at Canton is actively urging the Viceroy to take steps to afford adequate protection to the missionaries and converts.

The Kobe papers are informed by Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., the agents, that the N.P. steamer *Tacoma* left Tacoma on the 25th October under the "Stars and Stripes" and the rest of the fleet will leave the United States in due course under the same flag.

Another line of steamers has been placed in the trans-Pacific trade, having San Diego as the terminal point on the other side. The Company running the line is the California and Oriental Steamship Co., and the Hongkong agents Messrs. Butterfield and Swire.

It is understood that the steamer *Buenos Ayres*, which called at Singapore the other week having on board a large amount of ammunition and machine guns for Iloilo, has been seized by Admiral Dewey. Shippers are very much agitated as to the ultimate destination of cargo other than arms.

The *China Gazette* of the 2nd November says:—The increased pay of the happy members of I. M. Customs was handed to them on Saturday last. In future all members of the indoor staff and the outdoor men above the rank of examiner will be paid their extra money quarterly, all inferior grades drawing it monthly.

The *Foochow Echo* says:—We learn on good authority that a match factory is being built on the other side of the river opposite to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s hong. The large importations of matches from Japan show how extensive the consumption is in this province and we have no doubt that success will attend this new enterprise.

A Newchwang telegram of the 5th November to the *N. C. Daily News* says:—The *Esang* arrived here last night from Tientsin with Lord Charles Beresford and suite, who are the guests of Mr. Bush, agent for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Dr. Morrison, the *Times* correspondent, accompanies his Lordship.

The petition of Captain Richard Toulmin for a change of venue for his trial on the charge of murdering Cheng Lei-san, the comprador of the steamer *Dosing*, has been denied and the case is set down for hearing in the United States Consular Court at Canton on the 8th December. Mr. Bratton is the attorney for the prosecution and filed objections to the defendant's application for a change of venue.

The China Concessions Syndicate, Limited, has been registered, by Francis and Johnson, 26, Austinfriars, with a capital of £20,200 in 20,000 £1 ordinary shares and 4,000 1s. founders' shares, with the object of carrying on in the Empire of China or elsewhere the businesses of merchants, traders, engineers, miners, ship-owners, &c. The directors are to be elected by the signatories. Qualification, 200 shares. Remuneration to be fixed by the company.

The *Rangoon Gazette* says:—"Amongst the surveyors to accompany Captain Eldred Pottinger on the railway survey from the Yangtze to Burma is Natha Singh, perhaps the best sub-surveyor of the Survey of India we have had in Burma. He expects to arrive in Shanghai on October 27, by which date Captain Pottinger and other members of the party are also due." A Simla telegram of the 20th October to the same paper says:—"Lieutenant Hunter, R.E., recently employed on the Khyber Railway Survey and Hyderabad-Godavari Railway, leaves India shortly for Shanghai preliminary to joining the Yunnan Company's survey expedition to reconnoitre between the Yangtze river and Burma."

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha has at present a scheme of placing several ships on the Yangtze-Hankow route. In this connection the Kawasaki Shipbuilding yard of Kobe is constructing a steamer of 1,500 tons. Besides this the Shosen Kaisha has under consideration the building of three more steamers to be all placed on the above route. Of these three, two will be of 2,500 tons each, at the cost of over 300,000 yen. It is stated that the vessels of 2,500 tons will receive a yearly subsidy of 50,000 yen each under the Navigation Encouragement regulations, and with this State assistance, the Company's expenditure on this route will be not more than 200,000 yen a year.—*Japan Mail*.

The monument to the memory of the brave officers and sailors who went down with the ill-fated German gunboat *Itis* is now being put into position at Shanghai on the grass plot on the Bund next to the Public Garden. It is, the *China Gazette* says, a very simple but appropriate device, a shattered mast cast in bronze, about twelve feet high, which will be set on the top of a flight of four steps, and marked with a suitable inscription. It is thoroughly typical of the circumstances under which the heroes it commemorates died and the awful storm over which the unquenchable spirit of German patriotism rose superior in a manner that made all white men in China proud of how well gallant sailors can die.

CHINA'S FOREIGN ADVISERS.

(Daily Press, 11th November.)

In a despatch of Sir FREDERICK BRUCE to Earl RUSSELL, referring to the appointment of Mr. (now Sir) ROBERT HART as Inspector-General of the Chinese Customs, and dated 27th November, 1863, the writer said:—"It is very desirable, with a view to the maintenance of the Custom House administration, that the head of it should not be permanently at Peking, for if he is supposed to act as the adviser of the Chinese in matters not appertaining to his office he thereby incurs the odium of the errors they commit." The soundness of this judgment is to some extent illustrated in the position to-day. In the impatience excited in the mind of the foreign public by the recent course of events in China there has been exhibited a tendency to turn on the Inspector-General and blame him for not having used his influence more actively in favour of progress and reform. Had he done so, it is believed in some quarters, not only would the present crisis never have occurred, but China would long ago have been thrown open to trade and to development by means of railways and the navigation of her magnificent waterways by steamers. That Sir ROBERT HART in his long and successful career in China has committed errors of judgment goes without saying. The loss of the tea trade, for instance, must in part be laid at his door, owing to his opposition to the removal of the excessive duties levied upon the article. To blame him in any degree for the generally non-progressive character of the Chinese Government, however, is unjust. The Inspector-General is in the employ of the Chinese Government and like an honest servant has set what he deemed to be the interests of his employers first in his estimation. If the British Government has chosen to be guided in its policy by a servant of the Chinese Government, so much the greater fool the British Government. No man can serve two masters, and in the diplomatic contests of Peking Sir ROBERT HART was permanently retained on the Chinese side, and openly and avowedly so. The service over which he so ably presides was brought into existence in order to ensure an honest administration of the Customs, and that object has been very creditably fulfilled. Beyond that the head of the service was not supposed to use his influence for the advancement of British or other Foreign interests, and the reason the British Government has made it a stipulation that Sir ROBERT HART's successor shall be a British subject is, not that they may have an unaccredited representative working for their interests in the Chinese camp, but simply to ensure that the holder of the office shall not be inimical to British interests. An honest and impartial administration of the Customs service is all that is, or ought to be looked for, from the Inspector-General.

It is to be feared, however, that the British Government has too often allowed itself to be led by Sir ROBERT HART in matters outside his proper sphere. Knowing the character of the man we may feel assured that his advice has always been given disinterestedly, but it must necessarily have been affected by the position he held as a Chinese servant. It is urged that it would have been to China's interest, to have complied with the recommendations Great Britain has from time to time made, and that it was therefore Sir ROBERT HART's duty to so advise the Peking Government. The game of diplomacy,

however, is like a game of chess, with players on each side, each trying to win in his own way. Sir ROBERT HART has been playing for the Chinese. Whether he has played well or ill must be left to posterity to decide, but he has played the game fairly. There has never been any doubt as to what his views were upon the opening up of China. He committed them to print soon after his appointment, and for thirty-five years he has steadily adhered to them. Whether recent events may have shaken his faith in the soundness of those views we are unable to say, but writing in 1869 he said that ever since his first arrival at Peking in 1861 he had been urging the Yamen to move in the direction of what the West understands by the word Progress, qualifying this, however, by saying that for progress, involving radical changes in the customs and institutions of a country stretching so far away into the almost forgotten past as China, time must be given and patience displayed. "I therefore," he continued, "am daily more inclined to believe that the true policy is to 'leave her alone'—not that I am satisfied with the rate at which she progresses, but that I think, given the conditions which do exist and cannot be ignored, China is most likely to come to good in the end with benefit to herself and harm to none, if allowed to go along at her own rate, than if dealt with after a fashion of which the chief characteristics would be constantly resuming acts of violence and that foreign dictation which breeds revolt and checks healthy growth and natural action." That is a view that seemed at the time fairly open to defence, and it is the view that the British Government long acted upon, either because they took it on trust from Sir ROBERT HART or because they arrived at the same conclusion by independent reasoning. The events of the last few years, however, have clearly shown that China cannot be allowed to take her own time to reform; she must either do so at once or abide the consequences, which promise to be unpleasant for the dynasty and present administration, if not for the race. The British Government therefore can no longer afford to be guided solely by Sir ROBERT HART or to adhere blindly to ancient traditions. Much less should they allow their policy to be influenced by Sir HALLIDAY MACARTNEY, the Secretary of the Chinese Legation in London, who from his position is necessarily more subservient even than Sir ROBERT HART to influences of Chinese thought and policy. The Government must now play its own game and no longer be led by the advice of players on the opposite side.

THE FASHODA QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 5th November.)

The two references to the Fashoda question in Reuter's telegram published to-day are contradictory. On the one hand it is stated that M. DUPUY's Cabinet has prepared a programme which endorses M. DELCASSÉ's Fashoda views, and on the other hand a statement by the *Daily Graphic* is given to the effect that Major Marchand has been instructed to withdraw from Fashoda to the Upper Ubangi, evacuating posts east of the frontier indicated by the Anglo-German agreement. M. DELCASSÉ's views, as given in a previous telegram, were to the effect that the rights of France to Fashoda are no less than the rights of Great Britain to Khartoum, and that the occupation of the Soudan cannot proceed without

the express sanction of the Sultan, who alone is competent to declare that French rights are not equal to British. The new French Cabinet having endorsed that view it seems improbable that Major MARCHAND should have been simultaneously instructed to evacuate the territory in dispute, though the chances are that he will ultimately receive such orders, for we can hardly believe that France really intends to invite war over the question. Should she do so, however, it would perhaps occasion little regret in Great Britain except such as might be caused by sympathy with France in her disaster and grief for the inevitable loss of life on both sides. It seems almost inhuman to express a preference for war if peace is at all possible; but the relations between France and Great Britain have reached such a point that it seems doubtful if they can be re-established on a satisfactory footing without a little blood-letting. For years past France has been consistently pursuing a course dictated by a desire to annoy Great Britain, and that not in any one particular quarter of the world, but everywhere; wherever she has been able to get close enough to twist the lion's tail she has not failed to take advantage of her opportunity. At Fashoda she has gone a little too far, but has still an opportunity of avoiding an open rupture. If the affair is settled, however, in the only way in which it can be settled, namely, by France's withdrawal, it is to be feared that she will redouble her efforts to annoy in other directions where she thinks she may do so with greater safety. We have seen her steadily acting in excess of her rights in Newfoundland. In West Africa she has succeeded by sharp practice in securing large tracts of territory which should properly have belonged to England, and at the very time when an agreement was being concluded which it was hoped would adjust all differences between the two countries in regard to their African possessions, she was quietly pushing on an expedition to filch a slice of the Khedive's dominions on the Nile. Coming nearer to our own field the recollection is still green of how France induced China to make over to her certain territory which had just been conceded to the latter by Great Britain on the express condition that she should not cede it to any other Power; and France's intrigues and overbearing conduct in relation to Siam, with a view to provoking a quarrel with that country and ousting British trade and influence, are still proceeding as actively as ever. If war does not break out over the Fashoda incident it is almost certain to break out over something else, unless France develops a more reasonable mind. Persistence in a course of conduct calculated to provoke a quarrel will in the long run reach its natural result, for however great the patience of the provoked party it must in the long run become exhausted.

BRITAIN'S WARLIKE PREPARATIONS AND THEIR MEANING.

(Daily Press, 7th November.)

It being officially stated in Paris that the French Government has decided to evacuate Fashoda, the immediate danger of war between France and Great Britain may be considered at an end. An impression prevails, however, that it was not with reference to the Fashoda question alone that the recent warlike preparations of the British Government were made, and that impression

is no doubt correct, in the sense that the Fashoda question was only the last straw; but it was undoubtedly that question that was the proximate cause, and for that cause the nation was determined to fight, if a settlement could not be arrived at peaceably. The crisis having been allowed to reach such an acute stage the Government may now deem the opportunity a favourable one for making a clean sweep of all outstanding disputes, and it would, we think, be well advised in so doing. As Lord ROSEBURY reminded us the other day, at the time of the Siam difficulty we were within an ace of being forced into a war with France. The Newfoundland and West African questions have also for many years been a source of constant irritation. With reference to West Africa, a settlement was recently arrived at which may perhaps prove durable, but the Newfoundland question is still open. French intrigues in Siam constitute a standing menace to friendly relations, and there is the Great China question awaiting solution. In the latter we are brought face to face not only with France, but also, and on the surface more acutely, with Russia. A settlement with the latter Power, however, would probably not be difficult to arrive at if racial prejudice were laid aside and the question approached in a liberal minded manner, for it is not England's policy to unnecessarily thwart and embitter Russia by playing the dog in the manger with her. There is a marked distinction between France's action at Fashoda and Russia's action in Manchuria. In the former case France tried to step into territory over which Great Britain claimed to exercise direct influence and administrative authority; in the latter Russia is simply supplanting the barbaric rule of China in a region in which Great Britain has neither the intention nor wish to establish herself. If Russia's policy in relation to trade facilities is not all that we could wish it is nevertheless infinitely preferable to China's. But though we may be willing to see Manchuria fall within the Russian sphere of influence Great Britain could not consent to the whole of China being parcelled out without her agreement and participation. We would prefer that it should not be parcelled out at all, but that it should be transformed into a strong and progressive state in which commercial enterprise should have free play under the policy of the open door. For the realisation of this ideal European assistance and direction are necessary, and now that Great Britain has placed herself on a war footing we may be permitted to hope that she will use her strength for the establishment of her paramount influence at Peking, not with the selfish idea of keeping others out, but with the fixed determination of exercising a controlling voice in the administration with a view to the opening up of the country to the trade of all nations and giving the population the benefit of civilised government.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES.

(Daily Press, 7th November.)

The decision of the United States Government to insist upon the cession of the whole of the Philippine Islands was the only logical outcome of the situation. Having once occupied the capital there were only two practical courses open to the Americans—either to withdraw from the islands altogether or to annex the whole group. The Washington Government, in spite of a strong feeling in the Democratic party against the acquisition of responsibilities

abroad, have felt impelled to take a course which will make the great American Republic surrender one of its most cherished traditions and become a colonising Power. Destiny has proved stronger than policy, more potent than prejudice. The step is one that has not been taken unadvisedly or without counting the cost. President McKINLEY has no doubt reckoned on the opposition, on paper, of various Powers, and is no doubt ready to meet it if it should by any chance assume a more active form. We expected to hear of French opposition to the cession of the Philippines to the United States, and it has already been clarified, but we are somewhat surprised to find the Press of Germany and Russia following suit. Russia has heretofore been on good terms with the United States, and it is difficult to see on what grounds she can oppose the retention of the Philippines by the republic. Germany, there is reason to believe, indulged in some hope that she would profit by the weakness of Spain and obtain some foothold in the group. She already possesses the Marshall Islands and would probably have been willing to extend her protection to the Carolines. Whether under other circumstances there would have been a chance of her securing the latter by a little diplomacy we cannot tell, but the attitude assumed by her throughout the Spanish-American War served to irritate the Americans to such an extent that they would not now be likely to listen to any proposals for giving Germany a coaling station in the group. Nor is the United States Government likely to abate any jot of its demands at the dictation of a foreign press, even though that press should be officially inspired. If the British Government turns restive under too frequent attempts to twist the Lion's tail, how much less patient will be that of Washington under a process of attempting to clip the Eagle's wings.

POLITICAL CRISIS IN KOREA.

(Daily Press, 8th November.)

The special telegram we published yesterday to the effect that a political crisis exists at Seoul and that nineteen leaders of the Independence Club have been arrested would seem to show that the reactionaries are again in the ascendant in that unhappy country. In the kaleidoscopic changes that take place so frequently in the politics of the Peninsular Kingdom it is difficult to follow the influences by which each in succession is brought about, but the political camp may be divided into two main divisions, namely, the reactionaries and the progressives, the ranks of the latter being swollen no doubt by many self seekers whose instinct leads them to fish in troubled waters. The Independence Club is the party organisation of the progressives. On the 11th September an attempt was made to murder the Emperor and the Crown Prince poison being put in their coffee. The attempt fortunately proved unsuccessful, though both the intended victims were made ill by the poison. KIM HONG-YUK, formerly in the employ of the Russian Legation; was accused of being the leader in the plot, and he and two alleged accomplices were executed, after they had signed confessions. The bodies were afterwards publicly exposed and were horribly mutilated by the mob. The Russian Minister is reported to have asked for an explanation of the reasons for the precipitate execution of the alleged criminals, and representations are also said to have been made by other members of the diplomatic body with re-

ference to the mutilation of the bodies. At the time of the plot the Ministry was reactionary, and was said to have been trying to start an anti-foreign movement. The Independence Club held meetings in front of the Palace for five days demanding the resignation of the Ministers, and one of the points they made was that KIM HONG-YUK should have been given a fair and open trial, in which case he would have implicated some of the Ministers. There was extreme tension, but the King dismissed the Conservative ministers, the Independent party thus coming into power. That was about the middle of last month, and now the news comes that nineteen of the leaders of the Independence Club have been arrested and that the President has fled, so that their term of power has been a short one. The President of the Independence Club is named YUN and is, or was, the editor of the *Korean Independent*, an ably conducted paper of rather iconoclastic tendencies which will presumably have suspended publication since its editor has become a fugitive. A popular uprising is feared, and should it take place we will have an opportunity of seeing how far the recent agreement between Russia and Japan "to refrain from all direct interference in the internal affairs" of Korea will stand the test. It is possible that outside interference from some quarter may become absolutely necessary, unless the civilised world is to stand by and see the country involved in a barbarous factional war. The position in Korea bears a resemblance to that in China, and affords another illustration of the fact that the attempt to put new wine into old bottles is not unattended with danger.

COMPOUNDING WITH REBELS.

(Daily Press, 8th November.)

Another striking proof of the utter weakness and futility of the Chinese Government has just been given, which, in the present exciting times, is liable to be passed over without much comment. We refer to the action of the Acting Viceroy of Szechuen in buying over YU MAN-TZE, the leader of the rebels who have been so active in the persecution of the Roman Catholics in that province. YU MAN-TZE has been the chief instrument in engineering the movement against the Christians, who have been harried and burnt out in numerous districts until there are now about six thousand Roman Catholic refugees in Chungking, and their numbers are being daily augmented. Instead of dealing with this man and his followers as rebels, the Viceroy has all along, since foreign intervention was commenced, been patting them on the back, appealing to their feelings, begging them to lay down their arms, and praising their patriotism and former good behaviour, with hints no doubt of rewards if they would only listen to the Viceroy's wishes. This method of procedure has not, at any rate, been resultless. Yu agreed to listen to terms and to release Father FLEURY, whom he has been holding in captivity. In return for this the acting Viceroy has practically promised him immunity from consequences, and has conferred upon him a commission carrying a brevet button with it. The rebel's followers are to be either enlisted in the local military battalions or be paid their expenses of proceeding to their homes. This is certainly one way of dealing with rebellion, and it may be characterised as a truly Chinese method of treating it. But it cannot be doubted that YU MAN-TZE and his gang would have been differently treated had they not been engaged in a crusade against the Christians. This was, in the eyes of the officials, unquestionably a great

palliation of Yu's offence. In their opinion the course pursued was natural, though very inconvenient to them, on account of the pressure from the foreign Ministers. Had the rebels been protesting against the imposition of some specially burdensome tax they would probably have received scant consideration at the hands of the Viceroy, and had he, owing to the formidable nature of the rising, found it convenient to promise clemency, this pledge would have been readily broken, on the plea that no faith need be kept with a rebel. YU MAN-TZE's action, however, probably had the secret approval of the provincial authorities, and he was perfectly safe in treating with the authorities. And these are the officials that some persons think should be treated as civilised and on equal terms with those of Western countries!

POLITICAL CRISIS IN KOREA.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
Shanghai, 6th November.

There is a political crisis at the Korean capital, Seoul. Nineteen of the leading members of the Independence Club have been arrested. The President escaped.

An uprising is dreaded.

SUPREME COURT.

4th November.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

THE "KWANGLEE"-"POWAN" COLLISION.

Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys) appeared for the owners of the *Kwanglee* (the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, Limited) and Mr. Pollock (instructed by Mr. Hastings) for the owners of the *Powan*.

On the 23rd July the Chief Justice and the Puisne Judge gave judgment in an appeal from a judgment given by the Chief Justice on the 5th May in a case in which the owners of the *Kwanglee* brought an action against the owners of the *Powan*, claiming damages on account of a collision between the two vessels. Defendants, on the other hand, brought an action against plaintiffs, claiming damages in respect of the same collision. Each side recovered a moiety of their damages, each side to bear their own costs. This decision was appealed against by the owners of the *Kwanglee*, but the appeal was dismissed with costs.

An enquiry was held for the purpose of assessing the damages sustained by each side. The owners of the *Powan* took exception to several of the items allotted to them by the Registrar to pay to the owners of the *Kwanglee*, including \$12,765 for demurrage and \$285 for coal consumed while the vessel was undergoing repairs, and brought a motion to vary the Registrar's report.

His Lordship dealt at some length with the points raised. He held that defendants had succeeded substantially with regard to part of their contentions and had failed substantially in regard to the other part. He declined to reduce a demurrage claim by the *Kwanglee* from \$12,765 to \$8,140, and maintained the \$285 for coal consumed during a period of twenty-five days, ought to be reduced to \$181.74 on the ground that the *Kwanglee* was undergoing repairs which were necessary to enable her to obtain her passenger certificate. He disallowed the items \$124, \$5,700 and \$960 which were found by the Registrar in his report, "subject to the further order of this honourable Court" to be due to the *Kwanglee* for damages and loss of earnings of the wharf. His Lordship held that the Admiralty rule in regard to collision as to half-damages did not apply, and that the owners of the wharf were guilty of contributory negligence. He thought the right course was to make each party bear his own costs.

Mr. Pollock said that upon the question of costs he would respectfully submit to the court

that his clients ought to get the costs of the motion to vary the Registrar's report. He did so upon the ground that they had obtained a material variation of that report and upon a very important point.

The point was argued, but his lordship could not see his way to adopt Mr. Pollock's suggestion.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at 3.45 p.m. on Tuesday, the 1st November,—Present Messrs. R. M. Gray, (Chairman), Herbert Smith (Vice-Chairman), A. Haupt, J. J. Bell-Irving, T. Jackson, A. McConachie, N. A. Seibs, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary),—

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting (held on the 11th) Oct. were read and confirmed.

THE WORKING OF THE POST OFFICE.

Read reply of the Acting Colonial Secretary, dated 21st October, to the Chamber's letter of the 13th idem forwarding copies of the complaints made by Messrs. Cowasjee, Pallanjee & Co. and Gibb, Livingston & Co. of correspondence being lost. Copy of a report by the Postmaster-General was appended, and the reply stated that H. E. the Acting Governor would be glad to appoint three members of the Chamber to conduct the suggested inquiry into the working of the Post Office if, after perusal of the above named report, such a course was considered desirable.

A further letter from the Government in continuation of the correspondence, and enclosing copies of letters illustrating one of the Postmaster's contentions, was read. Also a letter from Messrs. Reiss & Co. giving two further illustrations of Postal shortcomings. (Others have since been received).

It was decided to write in reply to the offer of His Excellency to appoint a Committee of inquiry from members of the Chamber that, while appreciating the attention, the Committee were of opinion that it was outside the province of the Chamber to undertake such a duty, which could be better dealt with by the Government.

PROPOSED WESTERN HARBOUR OF REFUGE.

Read letter from Government, dated 22nd Oct., acknowledging receipt of the Chamber's letter of the 15th September forwarding a suggestion of Mr. R. K. Leigh, C.E., for the construction of a harbour of refuge for small craft at Belcher's Bay and recommending same to the careful consideration of the Government. The reply stated the Government had given the matter careful consideration, but before coming to a decision desired information on various points, the chief being how the cost was to be met, and whether the shipping community would consent to the imposition of harbour or other dues for the purpose.

Decided to reply (after reference to Mr. Leigh on one point), stating that the Chamber is of opinion that this necessary work should be paid for out of the general revenue of the Colony, and they strongly deprecated any retrograde movement which threatened renewed interference with the freedom of the port.

THE SINGAPORE CHAMBER AND LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

A letter had been received from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, dated 9th October, forwarding copy of resolutions which had on that date been sent by that body to Lord Charles Beresford. In the letter the Singapore Committee expressed the feeling that the Chambers of Hongkong and Shanghai were necessarily in a better position to form a more competent judgment upon the subject matter of the despatch.

A reply acknowledging receipt of above was despatched on the 25th Oct.

A long discussion on the object of Lord Charles Beresford's mission and in reference to the supply of certain information desired by his Lordship ensued, and it was decided to furnish all the information obtainable.

IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.

Read despatch from the Government, dated 28th October, transmitting a circular from the Secretary of State covering report of the Duke

of Norfolk on the result of the Conference on Postage within the British Empire, together with a report from the local Postmaster-General on the proposal to extend the principle of Penny Postage to Hongkong. Mr. Thomson estimates that its adoption will entail a loss of from \$20,000 to \$30,000 to the revenue and that if the contemplated reduction in parcel postage be made it will involve a further loss of some \$4,000 per annum. The opinion of the Chamber on the question was therefore requested by H.E. the Acting Governor.

It was resolved to reply to the effect that it seemed to the Committee the action of the Secretary of State in announcing that he had agreed to the penny rate for Hongkong had rendered it a foregone conclusion; but, if they were mistaken in this view, the Postmaster-General was best qualified to give an opinion, and that the remarks in his memorandum appeared to supply the information desired.

RESIGNATION FROM THE COMMITTEE.

The Vice-Chairman said—As I am leaving the colony on the 12th instant for home, I beg to tender my resignation from the Committee. I may perhaps be permitted to say—and I have been connected with the Committee for a good many years—that, in my opinion, owing mainly to careful, good work and studied moderation in the treatment of matters coming within its scope and in the expression of its views, the Chamber is stronger now than it ever was before, and its advocacy carries considerable weight. I wish it continuing success.

The resignation was accepted, the Chairman expressing the regret of the Committee at losing Mr. Smith's valuable services and cordially wishing him a pleasant voyage and an agreeable time in England.

(Correspondence.)

THE POST OFFICE.

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 21st October, 1898.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, inviting attention to the working of the General Post Office and urging the institution of an immediate and most searching inquiry into the entire working of that Department, I am directed to transmit a copy of report by the Postmaster-General, and to state that the Offices Administering the Government will be glad to appoint 3 members of, and nominated by the Chamber of Commerce, to conduct the suggested enquiry, if, after perusal of Mr. Thomson's report, such a course is considered desirable.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

REPORT BY THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

Hon. Acting Colonial Secretary,

This correspondence resolves itself into two complaints re lost correspondence and a demand for a Commission of Enquiry.

As regards the first complaint by an Indian firm, I may state that everything points to the conclusion that their letters were abstracted between the time of posting and obliterating the stamp.

At the time their solicitor called upon me I explained to him that such was most probably the case and, if I recollect rightly, I also informed him that we had taken ample precaution against such stealing in future.

As regards the letter from Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. to Foochow, it is possible that, along with many others about the period of posting, it was also stolen for the stamps. On the other hand, it may have been lost in one of the many ways that are impossible to discover and consequently cannot be guarded against.

As regards the request for an enquiry, I may state that as soon as it was discovered that stamp stealing had become systematic (owing to one or more of the Postal Hongs no doubt being convenient places for disposal) proper precaution was taken by stationing, during the time that any one has access to the letters, a detective, whose special duty is to see that all stamps on letters are obliterated immediately on being taken out of the dips or from the table at the window.

This is as effective a preventative as can be devised, unless the whole work of handling the letters for obliterating purposes be taken out of Chinese hands, which is not practicable.

When the accommodation is improved, it will become also much easier to watch that no pilfering takes place.

A. M. THOMSON, P.M.G.
17/10/1898.

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 25th October, 1898.

Sir,—In continuation of my letter No. 1957 of the 21st instant concerning the General Post Office, please see enclosed copies of two letters from Messrs Lants, Wegener and Company to the Postmaster-General, and also copy of a letter from Messrs Herbert Dent and Company, of Canton, to the Postal Agent at Canton.

This correspondence is sent with a view to illustrating that portion of Mr. Thomson's report already in your hands which alludes to the many ways of losing letters that it is impossible to discover and which consequently cannot be guarded against by the Postal Authorities.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 12th October, 1898.

The Postmaster-General, Hongkong.

Sir,—We beg to bring to your notice that at the 4th of this month we posted a letter addressed:—Mr. L. Haesloop care of Messrs. Lants and Haesloop, Swatow, for which we have got the receiver's stamp in our book. We guess that the letter was forwarded by s.s. *Haimun*, but till now Mr. Haesloop is not in the possession of the mentioned letter.—We have, &c.

LAUTS, WEGENER & Co.

Hongkong, 17th October, 1898.

To the Postmaster-General, Hongkong.

Sir,—Bearer, our Portuguese assistant, has misinformed us when answering our inquiry whether the letter which had been reported from Swatow as missing had been forwarded by him through the Post Office. We have received to-day notice from Swatow that the letter has been received after having been over-carried to Foochow and we therefore have to apologize for the *untruth* told us by our employé, who has to hand you this letter.—Yours, etc.,

LAUTS, WEGENER & Co.

Canton, 20th October, 1898.

Mr. H. L. Higgs, Present,

Dear Sir,—We beg to advise you that the letter reported by Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. of Hongkong as missing has been found. The letter in question was duly received by us on the 10th instant and was unfortunately mislaid.

Apologizing for the trouble that we have caused both to you and the Hongkong Postal Officials.—We are, etc.,

HERBERT DENT & Co.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 3rd November, 1898.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 21st and 25th ultimo, enclosing a report by the Postmaster-General on the complaints forwarded in my letter of the 16th idem, and in which you state that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government will be glad to appoint three members of the Chamber to conduct an inquiry (should the Committee still think it necessary after perusal of Mr. Thomson's report) as to the working of the Post Office.

Whilst thanking His Excellency for the opportunity offered, I am instructed to reply that the Committee are as much convinced as ever of the necessity for a searching investigation into the working of the Department in question, but they consider that it is not the province of this Chamber to conduct it, and they respectfully suggest that the Government are more competent to find the remedy for the evils complained of and the reality of which is so manifest.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To Hon. Colonial Secretary.

PROPOSED HARBOUR OF REFUGE.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 22nd October, 1898.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th ultimo, regarding the formation of a Harbour of Refuge west of the Slaughter House for the accommodation of small craft during the summer gales.

The subject has had careful consideration, but before coming to any decision in the matter it would be useful to know how a breakwater of 400 yards in length would furnish a deep water refuge of some 80 acres; how the expense of such an undertaking is proposed to be defrayed; whether the shipping community would consent to the imposition of harbour or other dues to cover the cost of the refuge; and whether the position of adjacent Marine Lot Holders in connection with the project has been considered.

—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

PENNY POSTAGE.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 28th October, 1898.

Sir,—I am directed to transmit for the consideration of the Chamber of Commerce a circular from the Secretary of State for the Colonies covering the report of the Duke of Norfolk on the result of the Conference on Postage within the British Empire.

A copy of a report by the local Postmaster-General on the proposed change in the letter postage and parcel postage rates is also enclosed.

The Officer Administering the Government will be glad if your Chamber will kindly give its earliest attention to the documents sent herein and favour His Excellency with an expression of opinion as to how far and in what manner the contemplated reduction of rates will affect this colony.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hon Acting Colonial Secretary.—The cost of transit of each letter to England by the English mail just now is nearly 10 cents. If the rate were reduced to 4 cents (equivalent to 1d.) the total loss to the colony in postage as estimated by the London Office would be \$21,000. But it must be understood that the London figures are based on old statistics, and that our correspondence here has increased more than 25 per cent. over last year, so that the total loss to revenue would approach \$30,000.

2.—Again, a letter sent from any British Post Office in China or from the Imperial Chinese Post Office with Hongkong stamps thereon would bear only a 4 cent stamp, whereas the colony would have to pay almost 10 cents for its transit, thus practically giving a bounty to all non-colonial residents in the Chinese Empire who correspond with England.

3.—A distinction would have to be made against letters arriving from China, and if 1d. letters from the Agencies, which are virtually Imperial Post Offices, be allowed, the Imperial Government should at the very least make up to this Government the loss they incur by transmitting the correspondence of residents in a foreign country.

4.—Examining the question as to who in the colony would derive benefit from the proposed change I have no hesitation in saying that were the deficit in revenue made up by increased taxation, which it appears from the Estimates would be necessary, it would mean taxing the Chinese and Indian population for the benefit of the European firms.

5.—Leaving out the Straits Settlements, the bulk of Chinese and Indian correspondence is sent to Australia, Netherlands Indies, Japan, Canada, U.S.A., and India, none of which come under the scheme, whereas on the other hand (leaving out China, which is common to all) European firms probably send a great portion of their correspondence to England.

6.—The benefit to be derived would therefore be almost exclusively confined to Europeans, who form themselves into three classes, viz. —

(1.) Those at least comparatively well-to-do.

(2.) Soldiers and sailors, &c.

(3.) Poor Europeans.

The first is perfectly well able and willing to pay the present rates, and the second have the privilege of sending letters at 2 cents, or 4d., already.

7.—The last class (beachcomber) is not one to encourage in the matter of writing home, as I should say nearly all their correspondence would consist in trying to obtain money on more or less false pretences from their relatives.

8.—English residents here, too, require no inducement to keep up a connection with home, as it is quite the extraordinary exception to find one who has the intention of staying after retirement anywhere but in the United Kingdom.

9.—I fail to see any advantage from an Imperial point of view as regards this colony, but if it is still considered by the Imperial Authorities that there is some advantage I do not see why they should not make up the loss to the colony, which absolutely does not participate.

10.—The ten cent rate, too, for a long time just about paid the expenses of the General Post Office, and as this year there is a large increase of revenue, with corresponding business, it is the intention of the Government to devote a portion of the increase to much needed improvements.

11.—If the rate is reduced there will be some difficulty in future in obtaining more funds for the Office in case they are required.

12.—I therefore suggest the following modification, viz. :—That letters may be sent at 4c. per 10z. once a fortnight per English mail, *via* Gibraltar. I have no doubt an additional agreement with the P. & O. S. N. Co. could be entered into to provide for this.

13.—On the other hand, if the Imperial Government insists on the scheme, let it remit a portion of the contribution which this colony at present pays towards the loss on the English mail subsidy.

14.—I may also add that the new rate would be awkward with our stamps on the decimal system, and that a number of mistakes might be expected.

15.—Some of the above objections also apply to the proposal *re* parcels, which if adopted would mean a loss of \$4,000 more per annum.

A. M. THOMSON,
Postmaster-General.

24th October, 1898.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 3rd November, 1898.

Sir,—I beg leave to acknowledge receipt of your despatch (No. 2,007) of the 28th ult. transmitting for the consideration of this Chamber a circular from the Secretary of State for the Colonies covering the report of the Duke of Norfolk on the result of the Conference on Postage within the British Empire, together with a memorandum by the local Postmaster-General on the contemplated changes in postal rates, and requesting an expression of opinion thereon.

I am directed by the Committee to point out that, as the Secretary of State has already announced that he has agreed on the penny rate for Hongkong among other Crown colonies, the matter is practically removed from the domain of discussion. If, however, the Committee are mistaken in this supposition, and the question is still open to argument, they are of opinion that the Postmaster-General is best qualified to give an opinion and that the remarks in his memorandum seem to supply the information required.

The circular despatch of the Secretary of State and the report of the Duke of Norfolk are returned herewith as requested.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To Hon. T. Sercombe Smith, Acting Colonial Secretary.

News from the Mekong River says that the French authorities have imposed on goods from Burma an import duty of fifty per cent. *ad valorem*. It is understood that similar duties will be imposed in French Laos as against Siam.—*Straits Times*.

A CHINAMAN CHARGED WITH WIFE MURDER.

At the Magistracy on 4th Nov. a Chinaman named Lui Ng (aged 40), of 36, High Street, stone-breaker, was charged with the wilful murder of his wife, Wong Mui, aged 29.

Sit Po, a carrying coolie, said he lived at 36, High Street. Prisoner and his wife also lived there. The wife was now dead. He saw her dead body at the Government Civil Hospital mortuary on Thursday noon. At 2 p.m. on Tuesday he was in the house when prisoner came in. Witness was in the kitchen, as was also deceased, who was washing her clothes. He was in and out until about four o'clock. Before that time he was in the kitchen, as were also prisoner and deceased. No one else was in the kitchen. Prisoner was quarrelling with deceased for not having his rice ready. Deceased scolded prisoner back. They quarrelled for about half-an-hour, and then deceased went out into the street and made a noise there. Prisoner left the kitchen and went into his room, and then deceased returned to the kitchen. Prisoner's room was the second floor from the kitchen, the third from the door. Prisoner returned to the kitchen and renewed the quarrel with deceased. Then witness saw prisoner take up the bamboo carrying pole produced and threaten deceased with it, but he did not strike her. Witness went up and pushed prisoner out of the kitchen. Prisoner put the bamboo in a corner and went into his room. Deceased followed and the quarrel was continued. The door was only half shut. Witness heard them quarrelling for about half-an-hour and then he heard a noise as if caused by blows on the partition. He then heard deceased call out "Save life," and saw her rush into the street. Prisoner, who had been his fellow lodger for about three months, was always quarrelling with his wife.

Yeung Chan, a hawker living at 36, High Street, also said he heard the couple quarrelling and that he saw the woman rush into the street. The couple had no children. They quarrelled daily. Deceased was a lazy woman.

Yeung Lan, another inmate of 36, High Street gave similar evidence.

Wong Ling, sergeant interpreter at No. 7 Police Station, said that at 5.15 p.m. on Tuesday a woman came running into the station and made a report. She lay down as soon as she came in. In consequence of the report witness sent P. C. 265 to arrest prisoner. At nine o'clock the same night witness attended at the Government Civil Hospital for the dying depositions of deceased. Prisoner was also present.

Evidence having been given as to the conveying of the woman to the Government Civil Hospital and also by Inspector Macdonald, who was in No. 7 Police Station when the woman came in.

Dr. John Bell, of the Government Civil Hospital, said at 6-10 p.m. on Tuesday deceased was brought to the Hospital in a state of bad collapse. She suffered from a bruise on the lower part of the body on the right side. At 9-30 he sent for Dr. Atkinson, and the woman's depositions were taken. They operated on her, and she died half-an-hour afterwards. Deceased, who was *enceinte*, was bleeding internally from a rupture. The hemorrhage was stopped, but she never rallied. The rupture might have been caused by a blow or a fall.

The case was adjourned until the 5th, when the accused was committed for trial.

AN EXTRADITION CASE.

At the Magistracy on the 7th November, before Commander Hastings, the case of a Chinaman whom the Chinese authorities wish to get hold of, on the ground that he was one of a band of robbers who ransacked a shop at Cha Tau Kok in the Sun On district on the 16th of October, again came up. The case has excited a considerable amount of interest among the Chinese reform party, the accused himself belonging to the progressive section of the community. They allege that the charge is merely a trumped up one, and that it has been formulated because it is the only way in which the Chinese authorities can secure the man's extradition. "It is stated that he got together a body of men in connection with a movement of rebellion, but acting on the advice of some German mission-

aries he, being a Christian, disbanded his force before any damage was done, and himself took refuge in Hongkong.

The man's name is Chung Shui Yeung, alias Chung Kwok Chu. He is a man of superior education, and is possessed of considerable wealth. Hence it is asserted that the idea of his taking part in a robbery is absurd. For some years he resided in Honolulu, and among those in court yesterday was a Hawaiian woman, whom it transpired was defendant's wife. A Chinese gunboat is waiting in the harbour to take defendant away should the application for his extradition prove successful.

Mr. Robinson appeared on behalf of the Chinese Government and for the prosecution and Mr. Gedge for the defence.

Mr. Robinson said the application was for the extradition of defendant under Ordinance 26 of 1889, the preamble of which said, "Whereas by Article XXI. of the treaty between Her Majesty and the Emperor of China done at Tientsin on the 26th June, 1858, it was agreed and concluded that if criminals, subjects of China, shall take refuge in Hongkong, or on board the British ships there, they shall, upon due requisition by the Chinese authorities, be searched for, and, on proof of their guilt, be delivered up; and whereas it is expedient to amend the law for the more effective carrying out of the said treaty in relation to the surrender of criminals, subjects of China, who take refuge in Hongkong, or on board the British ships there, this Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as the Chinese Extradition Ordinance 1889." By section 3 the Ordinance enacted, "The crimes mentioned in the first schedule to this Ordinance shall be construed according to the law in force in the colony at the date of the alleged crime." The crimes mentioned in the first schedule included that of burglary, and in the present instance defendant was accused of having committed the crime of burglary within the jurisdiction of China. The date was about the 16th or 18th October, 1898, and the place Cha Tau Kok, in the neighbourhood of Mirs Bay. The first point to be made on behalf of the prosecution was to prove that defendant was a Chinese subject. The second point would be to prove that he was one of a band of men who committed the outrage alleged. It was alleged that defendant was not a Chinese subject, but was a subject of Hawaii. That question turned partly on evidence and partly on law. It was possible that he might be a naturalised subject of Hawaii, and it might be that a man might belong by naturalisation to one state without renouncing the nationality of his native state. With regard to the first point—that defendant was a Chinese subject—he proposed to call the sergeant interpreter who took down what defendant said on the charge being read over to him and after he had been cautioned, and thereby to show that the man was born in China, and that he had bought latterly a Chinese title, and that he had adopted the customs of China with regard to marriage with a concubine and the purchase of a son, and that he held lands in China. The crime with which defendant was charged—for the moment he would deal with the complaint of burglary—was the crime of burglary. They alleged that in the month of October a band of men entered the village of Cha Tau Kok, some in chairs and others on foot, and went to a shop called the Tung Hing Tai shop and appropriated the cash they found in the shop and also most of the stock in trade. The Tung Hing Tai shop included two branches. One was on the south side of the street and rice and samshu were sold there. The other was on the north side of the street and silk was sold in it. These two shops had but one sign and name and constituted together the Tung Hing Tai shop. He should call the general manager to prove he was in the silk shop when the band of men entered the village, that they entered the shop pointing revolvers, and that they robbed the shop and went away. It might be that he would have to ask for an adjournment to admit of other witnesses being called. He had also there a doctor, who carried on business next door to the Tung Hing Tai shop, who would identify defendant as one of the band of robbers. These were the only two witnesses he proposed to call that day.

The Magistrate—The identification should take place before the man is placed in the dock. Mr. Robinson—I thoroughly endorse that view.

Mr. Gedge—These men have had free access to the court and may have seen the man already.

Mr. Robinson—I suppose the identification will be carried out in the usual way. The man will be returned to goal and picked out from among a number of other people.

The Magistrate—Oh, yes; certainly.

Mr. Gedge—I am told that prisoner got here at two o'clock, and the men have had plenty of opportunity to come round the corner and peep into the dock, in which there is only one prisoner.

Mr. Robinson—Your worship would hear from my statement that both witnesses are men of some little position in their country. One is the general manager of the shop and the other is the man next door.

Ho Ping Pui, sergeant interpreter at the Central Police Station, said he was on duty when defendant was brought in at half past four on the 29th October. After being charged and duly cautioned he voluntarily made a statement, which witness took down and of which the following is a translation:—

"The charge against me of committing the crime of burglary is not true. I am wrongly accused. I am rich. To accuse me of the base crime is a false accusation. I went to Honolulu when I was seven years of age. I brought my family when I was thirty-five years of age to my native village. I was in my village for six years. After I had come back from Honolulu I purchased fields and land, lent money to people, married a concubine, and bought a son. Now I have account books and some deeds of land as evidence. Two or three months ago I heard that many burglaries were being committed. At that time I was grieved to hear that rice and grain were dear. I had over forty piculs of grain left. I told my folks to carry it out for sale. The people sold it for \$3.60 per picul, but I sold it only to the family for \$2.80, as I learned that they were starving. Afterwards the rich men rebuked me and said that I wanted to compete and sell at a low price. Ten days ago I was told that some persons went to Sun On city and accused me of treason. I did not believe it. After that I heard that robberies were taking place in the neighbourhood. Ten days ago I was told that some soldiers were coming to arrest me. I was afraid when I heard that. Therefore I came to Hongkong at once. I came here at night on the 18th inst. On the morning of the following day my wife was at home. Suddenly, over ten persons came to her house, and took away by force all clothing, trunks and everything. My wife only retained the account books and some jewellery, and ran away straight to the church, where she asked the preacher to take her to Hongkong. To-day I was arrested. I did not commit the crime of burglary. I was robbed of property to the value of over \$7,000. I am a naturalized subject of Hawaii. I am thankful that people do not rob me. Is it likely that I should rob people? I have plenty of evidence to prove what I have said. I have the title of Chan Tung by purchase. I have not been half a mile from my house."

Inspector Ford, who was in charge at the Central Police Station when defendant was brought in, said he asked defendant his name and address in English and he answered in English. The entry he made on the charge sheet was, "Chung Shui Yeung, 41, alias Chung Kwok Chu, retired lawyer's clerk, of independent means, native of Wong Tong village, near Tung Wa market place, Sun On district. Naturalised Hawaiian subject."

In answer to Mr. Gedge, witness admitted that before he questioned defendant he did not warn him.

Mr. Gedge objected to the charge sheet being produced as evidence against his client, inasmuch as he had not been warned.

Inspector Hanson produced a box containing the effects of defendant, among which was an envelope containing six documents in Chinese and a Hawaiian certificate.

Prisoner was then taken out for identification. On his return,

Tang Mun said he was manager of the Tung Hing Tai shop at Tung Wa market place at Cha Tau Kok. The proprietor was called Tai

Man Hing and he lived at a village called Nam Chung, about eight li from Tung Wa. At the Tung Hing Tai shops silks and rice and wine were sold, the silks being sold in a shop on one side of the street and wine and rice in a shop on the other side. There was a robbery committed at the shop on the 16th of October at about 3.30 p.m. When the robbery began he was sitting at the counter in the silk department. More than ten men came into the shop and seized him by the queue and asked him where the money was, and he said it was in the accountant's room and that the safe was under the bed. One man held him and another took up the box. The man who held him had a revolver and the other people took the stock in the shop. They took \$2,000 worth of stock and broke open the safe and took 300 taels worth of silver. Afterwards they went away. He only saw what passed in the silk shop. What was going on in the wine and rice shop he did not know. He recognised defendant as one of the robbers. He had already picked him out from a number of other prisoners in the gaol. Defendant had a pole and revolver in his hand and said to the others, "Remove things."

In answer to Mr. Gedge, witness said he came down to Hongkong on the second of November. He came alone. He reported the robbery to the Sun On Magistrate on the 17th October. The Magistrate lived about 60 li away from the Tung Hing Tai shop. There were between 60 and 70 men employed in shops at Cha Tau Kok. The master was not at the shop on the 16th of October. There were no soldiers or watchmen of Cha Tau Kok. At the time the robbery took place two other men were at the counter with him, but they had not come down yet. In addition three men were behind the accountant's room distilling wine. Lime and stones were stowed at the back of the rice shop and that was the reason why they were distilling the wine at the back of the silk shop. He was at the court at two o'clock that day and went and sat down in the other court, but he did not see defendant in the dock through the open door. He did not notice whether the door was open or not. He had not seen defendant since the robbery. Between ten and 20 robbers came into the shop. There were no customers in at the time.

The further hearing was adjourned.

ALLEGED FORGERY OF A TELEGRAM.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE.

At the Magistracy on the 8th November, before Commander Hastings, Walter George Vaughan Robinson was charged on the information of Benjamin Emsley with an offence against Ordinance 14 of 1894, an Ordinance which is cited for all purposes as the Telegraphic Messages Ordinance, 1894, and which was enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, "with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, to secure, in certain cases, the rights of property in telegraphic messages, and to prevent the forgery and improper disclosure of telegrams." The preamble reads as follows:—"Whereas it is expedient to secure, in certain cases, the rights of property in telegraphic messages, and to prevent the forgery and improper disclosure of telegrams; Be it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows: (1) This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as the Telegraphic Messages Ordinance, 1894."

A warrant for the arrest of defendant was issued on Monday afternoon and was executed by Inspector Moffat. Bail—\$1,000 deposited—was allowed.

Mr. Gedge appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Francis, Q.C., (instructed by Mr. Hastings) for the defence.

Mr. Gedge said this was a charge brought at the instigation of a gentleman named Mr. Benjamin Emsley against defendant, who was sole proprietor, he understood, of the Robinson Piano Company in Queen's Road, Victoria. The charge against him was under section 6 of Ordinance 14 of 1894—the Telegraphic Messages Ordinance, 1894. The charge was that "The said Walter George Vaughan Robinson, on 10th or 11th day of October, 1898,

at Victoria aforesaid unlawfully, and falsely did forge and counterfeit a certain writing purporting to be a telegram in the words and figures following, that is to say, "Springford Clayton Roijun Maru, Kobe. Wife cables coming. Return. Apply passage Yusen. Matters arranged. Emslie," contrary to the provisions of Ordinance 14 of 1894." He was also charged, "That the said Walter George Vaughan Robinson, on the 10th or 11th day of October, 1898, at Victoria aforesaid, unlawfully, falsely and deceitfully did utter and publish as true a telegram knowing the same to be forged, contrary to the provisions of Ordinance No. 14 of 1894."

Commander Hastings (referring to his papers)—I see here that defendant is charged that he "did unlawfully forge and utter a telegram knowing the same to be forged, and unlawfully and without due authority did transmit by telegraph as a telegram a certain message well knowing the same to be not a telegram on the 10th or 11th October, 1898, at Victoria in this colony, contrary to the provisions of Ordinance 14 of 1898."

Mr. Gedge said that that charge was not formulated by them in any way, and suggested that his worship should look at the sworn information. The charges as read by his worship were practically comprehensive, but he thought the words he had read out were the better words. The others seemed to be very short. He had brought three charges against defendant.

Commander Hastings said he would amend the charge.

Mr. Gedge, continuing, said there were three charges against defendant, and the charges were brought, as he had already said, under section 6 of Ordinance 14 of 1894, which read as follows:—"Every person who forges or wilfully and without due authority alters a telegram or utters a telegram knowing the same to be forged, or wilfully and without due authority altered, or who transmits by telegraph as a telegram, or utters as a telegram any message or communication which he knows to be not a telegram, shall, whether he had or had not an intent to defraud, be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$50, and, on conviction on information in the Supreme Court, to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding 12 months. A sub-section of section 6 said:—"For the purposes of this section the expression telegram means a written or printed message or communication sent to or delivered at a post office, or the office of a telegraph company, for transmission by telegraph, or delivered by the post office or a telegraph company as a message or communication transmitted by telegraph." Another sub-section said:—"The expression telegraph company, means any company, corporation, or persons carrying on the business of sending telegrams for the public under whatever authority or in whatever manner such company, corporation, or persons may act or be constituted." That was the law. The facts were shortly these. He should call before his worship a gentleman of the name of Benjamin Emsley and also a gentleman named George Springford. These gentlemen were for some time in the employ of defendant as pianoforte tuners and repairers and manufacturers of pianos. They were jointly employed in defendant's store in Queen's Road. About August 30th Emsley was dismissed by Mr. Robinson, as Emsley alleged wrongfully, as Mr. Robinson alleged lawfully. Emsley subsequently brought an action against Robinson for damages for breach of contract and also for two months' wages which Mr. Robinson had refused to pay him. That action was brought in the Summary Court. Emsley, subsequently to his dismissal by Robinson, was employed by Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Company as a pianoforte tuner, and Robinson thereupon brought an action against Emsley to restrain him from practising his profession or business as a pianoforte tuner in Hongkong. These two actions were still pending. Springford was up to September 30th in the employ of Robinson, and on or about that date left Robinson. As he was instructed, Robinson refused to pay him some part of his salary that month, and Springford accordingly left him. Thinking he could better himself he

proceeded to Kobe, Japan. He was instructed he left by the Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, and he left under the assumed name of Clayton. Springford would explain to his worship why he sailed under that assumed name. At any rate he left Hongkong, and he arrived at Kobe on the 14th October last. On his arrival he was handed a telegram which was dated Hongkong, 11th October, 1898, which appeared to have been despatched at 3.45 p.m. It comprised 14 words and was addressed "Springford, Clayton, *Riojun Maru*, Kobe," and said, "Wife cables coming. Return. Apply passage Yusen. Matters arranged. Emslie." That telegraphic message was handed to Springford by the manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha at Kobe on his arrival at that place on 14th October. After getting this message, Mr. Springford went on to Yokohama by the same boat, and in consequence of the message he returned by the *Riojun Maru*, which arrived at Hongkong on Sunday, October 30th. On his arrival he went to see Emsley. He asked Emsley about the message, and Emsley at once said he had never despatched it. They both then went round to the Telegraph Company's office and asked to see the original message. They saw it and Emsley there and then said the message had never been despatched by him and was a forgery. He must go back a bit. Prior to Springford leaving Hongkong he lived with a man named Edward Kliene. He owed Kliene some money, and on the evening of Friday, the 7th October, a man named Ruchwaldy, in the employ of Robinson, went to Kliene's office and made a communication to him. In consequence of that communication Kliene, on the afternoon of the same day, called at Robinson's store to see Ruchwaldy. Instead of seeing the latter he saw Robinson. Kliene would detail to his worship what passed between himself and Robinson and would say that that was the first time he ever saw Robinson. He found out afterwards, on the same evening, that Springford had gone to Japan, and meeting Robinson in the Hongkong Hotel he told him of this. On the 8th October Kliene met Robinson at his store. On the 10th October he saw him again, and Robinson asked him to find out from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha as to how Springford had travelled to Japan. He went to the office of the company, and then returned to Robinson, with whom he had a long conversation. It was on the 10th October that the telegram was dictated by Robinson to Kliene. Kliene took it down in his own hand-writing. Unfortunately he was unable to produce the draft of the telegram dictated by Robinson, but that was on the 11th October handed by Kliene to a Portuguese clerk in the same office named Gutierrez, who copied the telegram out. Mr. Beck would produce the original telegram. Gutierrez handed the draft back to Kliene together with the telegram, and the latter was despatched by a coolie to the Telegraph Office with the money with which to pay for it, and the telegram was despatched. On the 10th Oct. Robinson gave Kliene \$40 in bank notes, and Kliene paid the money to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for Springford's passage back from Japan. He thought Kliene paid for the telegram out of his own pocket. The manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha would be called, and Kliene and Gutierrez would be called. At present he thought that was all he had to tell his worship about the case, and he would now proceed to call evidence.

Inspector Moffat said—On the 7th instant at 3.30 p.m., by virtue of the warrant produced, I arrested defendant in his store in Queens Road Central. When I entered his shop defendant was sitting at a desk writing. Then Mr. Farmer, of the Victoria Hotel, came in and had a few minutes' conversation with defendant. On Mr. Farmer going out I produced my card and defendant asked me to come round. I showed defendant the warrant, and he exclaimed "It's damned annoying; it's too absurd. Must I go now?" I replied, "As soon as possible; you can finish your letter and put things a bit straight." He then asked if he could see his solicitor. I said I could not wait until he had had a consultation with his solicitor, and defendant then began writing a note. After he had written a few words he scored one word out and remarked, "I suppose that damned Chinaman gave it away." Defendant finished the note, gave it to Mr. Stokes (his bookkeeper), and

then enquired about bail. I replied that \$1,000 would be required. I then accompanied him to the National Bank of China, where the money was obtained. I afterwards brought him to the Police Station.

J. M. Beck said—I am acting manager of the Eastern Extension and Great Northern Telegraph Companies in Hongkong. I produce a telegram sent from Hongkong to Kobe on the 11th October, 1898. It was despatched to Kobe at 3.18 p.m., Hongkong time. It is addressed "Springford, Clayton, *Riojun Maru*, Kobe," and says, "Wife cables coming. Return. Apply passage Yusen. Matters arranged. Emslie." The message purported to be from J. T. Smith, living at Stanley Street. I have no knowledge as to who brought the message to the office. I don't know how it was paid for, but the requisite cash was forthcoming with the message.

In reply to Mr. Francis witness said—A Chinese clerk named Ho Kwon took the message in. The handwriting in the corner tells who received it. I know that to be the handwriting of this clerk.

J. J. Gutierrez said—I am junior clerk in the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States. I have seen the telegram produced before. I wrote it on the 11th October. Mr. Kliene, who is my superior in the office, asked me to copy it. Mr. Kliene gave me this form and a piece of paper on which these few words were written. I knew nothing of the case, and thinking it was office business I copied exactly what was written on the paper, and after copying it I handed both the paper and the telegram to Mr. Kliene.

In reply to Mr. Francis witness said—The piece of paper handed to me by Mr. Kliene was a piece of plain white paper. "Stanley Street" and "J. T. Smith" were on the paper, and Mr. Kliene pointed out to me where to put them. There is no one in the office of the name of J. T. Smith, and I do not know any one of that name. I had never copied telegrams for Mr. Kliene before. It is not my business as a rule to copy telegrams. There was nothing else on the paper besides these words. I can't say exactly whose handwriting was on the paper. I think it was Mr. Kliene's. I have seen Mr. Kliene's hand writing frequently. Mr. Kliene's desk is close to mine, but I did not see him writing on the paper. Mr. Kliene did not say where the message was going to or anything about it.

Replying to Mr. Gedge, witness said—The exact words I wrote were, "Springford, Clayton, *Riojun Maru*. Wife cables coming. Return. Apply passage Yusen. Matters arranged. Emslie. Stanley street. J. T. Smith."

By the Magistrate—I don't know defendant. I have never seen him in the office.

Edwin Kliene said—I was an assistant in the Equitable Life Assurance Society up to to-day. I have resigned my position. I have a copy of my resignation with me. I know defendant. I first made his acquaintance the day after Springford left the colony. I think it was on Friday, the 8th October. Mr. Ruchwaldy called that day at the office in Icehouse-street, over the New Victoria Hotel. Ruchwaldy is a clerk in the employ of defendant. I had a conversation with Ruchwaldy, and in consequence of that conversation I went to Ruchwaldy's office at defendant's store that afternoon. I did not see Ruchwaldy but I saw defendant. I had seen defendant before that day and knew who he was but had never been introduced to him. Defendant said to me, "Are you Mr. Kliene?" and I replied "Yes." I then said, "I came to see Mr. Ruchwaldy." Then I said, "Springford has left my house owing me money." Defendant said Springford owed him money too. I then went away. The next time I saw him was as I was coming out of the Hongkong Hotel the same evening, I told him I had just heard that Springford had left the town by the *Riojun Maru*. He said he would go and see Deacon, his lawyer, the first thing next morning to try and get Springford back. Nothing else passed between us that evening. The next time I saw him was on Saturday, the next day. I am not quite sure where I met him. It was in his store, I think. He told me it was too expensive a thing to get Springford back in the ordinary way, that was to send a constable for him and pay his passage back and the constable's expenses. He said he would have to think of another way. That is all that passed that day.

I next saw him on the following Monday—I believe the 10th. I think I met him in Queen's Road—I am not quite sure—but afterwards I went with him into his shop. Then he asked me to go to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to enquire by what name Springford travelled and ask whether they would accept a prepaid passage for Springford's return, and if they would advise the office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha at Kobe of this by telegram. He suggested telegraphing to Springford at the same time as a telegram was sent to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha at Kobe. I went and made the suggested arrangement with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and returned to Mr. Robinson's office. Mr. Robinson, who had a letter in his hand, told me he had received a letter from Springford's wife, who was anxious to come out. Then he dictated a telegram to me. I wrote down what defendant dictated to me on some paper I had in my pocket. I had no pencil, so I used defendant's pencil. I have not got that paper now. After it had been copied out I destroyed it. It was copied out by J. J. Gutierrez. The telegram was as follows—"Springford, Clayton, *Riojun Maru*, Kobe. Wife cables coming. Matters arranged. Emslie." The words "Apply passage Yusen" were inserted on the suggestion of the manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Defendant said if he used Emsley's name Springford would pay more attention to it. I did not know whether it was right to use another man's name, and on my saying so defendant replied that there was no harm in it as long as the name was not exactly the same, adding that if anyone used the name "Robinson" or "Robertson" he should not say they were using his name. I was still dubious about it and uncertain as to whether it was quite right, and defendant took up a legal book. I presume it was "Every man his own lawyer." Then he turned up and read something and said, "Fraud £100 fine only, and this is not really fraud. It is not defrauding anybody of money or anything." So I believed him, and left. I took the draft of the telegram with me. I next saw him on the Tuesday afternoon in his store, and he handed me \$40 in bank notes, saying "This money is for Springford's passage." I took this money straight to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and paid it to the manager. I asked the manager to receive this money as a deposit for Springford's passage, and he took the money and gave me a receipt in Robinson's name at my request. It was agreed if Springford did not come back the money would be refunded to Robinson. I kept the receipt until the Nippon Yusen Kaisha advised Robinson that Springford was coming in the *Hiroshima Maru*. Then I had a chit from the steamboat company to call at their office. I did so and I handed back the receipt. I kept the paper on which I had written the message dictated by defendant in my pocket until the Tuesday, October 11th, when I handed it to Mr. Gutierrez to copy it, and the copy produced is the same. I forgot to mention that in the message dictated to me by Robinson the word "Return" was used. After copying the telegram Gutierrez handed it to me together with the draft. I then sent the telegram up to the Telegraph Office by a coolie. It was folded up in an envelope. I gave the coolie \$20 in notes with which to pay for the telegram and he brought back change. I paid the money on the understanding that it was to be re-imbursed to me when the thing was settled. I came to an understanding on the previous day with defendant, he to pay the passage and I to pay for the telegram. I hoped on Springford's return to be repaid in proportion to my claim. Springford owed me \$64 for board and lodging and he paid me \$4 on account. After the despatch of the telegram—a few days afterwards when defendant knew Springford was coming—defendant came into my office and wanted me to go with him to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha office to say that he had nothing to do with bringing Springford back. He wanted me to tell the manager I had paid the passage on my own account. I refused to go with him. He pressed me and I said I would see him later on at his own office. He said I must go, and I replied that I would go in about a quarter of an hour. I went away on office business and defendant came for me at

the office while I was out. Shortly afterwards I went to defendant's office, but defendant was engaged and I did not go again. Robinson said Springford had a rich uncle at home in the piano trade to whom he might apply for assistance. This encouraged me to think there was a possibility of my getting my money back. He said if the uncle did not pay he would go for Springford—that he would put him in "chokey." I believe this conversation took place on Oct. 10. Defendant said Emsley had an interest in getting Springford out of the way. He said Springford was a witness against Emsley in his case.

Mr. Gedge asked that Mr. Dennys might be called before Mr. Francis commenced his cross-examination of this witness.

H. L. Dennys said—I am a solicitor practising in Hongkong. Springford consulted me on November 5th in reference to his coming to Hongkong, and I reported my instruction to Mr. Robinson, to whom I wrote the following letter:—"Dear Sir,—Mr. George Springford has consulted me with reference to a telegram which you caused to be despatched to Kobe, by means of which Mr. Springford was induced to return to Hongkong. As you must have been aware that the statements contained in the telegram were absolutely untrue and without foundation, and that the use of Mr. Emsley's name was absolutely unjustifiable, I am now instructed to inform you that unless you make a satisfactory arrangement with my client to enable him to return to England and pay him a sufficient sum to compensate him for the damages he has sustained, he will be compelled to take such legal steps in the matter as he may be advised. As my client considers this a most urgent matter, I must ask you to inform me what you propose to do before Monday morning next at ten o'clock." To this letter I received the following reply, dated November 5th, from Mr. Robinson:—"Dear Sir,—Replying yours of even date just received, I have to say I have not caused any telegram to be sent to Springford, nor do I know what were the statements you refer to. I know nothing either of the use of Emsley's name. I am quite ready to defend any action Springford may take, and as to compensation and passage, both are due to me and I am claiming for them. Also for money advanced and for wilful damage to seven pianos in my factory and other matters. He shall hear from me in no measured terms." I have since issued a writ on behalf of Mr. Springford against defendant claiming \$1,000 damages.

Mr. Francis—I have no questions to ask Mr. Dennys.

The cross-examination of the witness Kliene was deferred.

9th November.

The proceedings commenced with the cross-examination by Mr. Francis of the witness Edwin Kliene, who gave evidence on the afternoon of the previous day.

Mr. Francis—How long have you been in Hongkong, Mr. Kliene?

Witness—Since February last.

Where did you come from?—From Canton.

Had you been in Hongkong or doing business here before?—No, I had passed through Hongkong.

Where were you employed at Canton?—In the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

Where have you been residing in Hongkong since you came here?—I have been residing in West End Terrace.

Occupying a house there?—Yes.

Keeping a boarding house?—No.

Do you rent the whole of this house or do you only occupy a portion of it?—I occupy the whole house.

How many other persons have you living there with you?—This Springford stayed with me a month.

No one else?—No.

Have you had Mr. Emsley staying in your house?—Never; he has never been near my house.

Did you know Mr. Emsley before this affair turned up?—I have seen him in Canton once, some time last year.

Is he a visitor at your house?—No.

When did Springford come to live with you?—In the beginning of September.

How many rooms did he occupy?—He had one room.

Did he board with you?—Yes.

And when did he leave your house; when did you last see him?—About the end of September.

I want to know the date?—It was the last day in September.

How much did he owe you then?—He owed me a month's board and lodging.

I asked you how much?—\$60; but he had paid me \$6 on account.

Had he borrowed any money from you?—No.

Had he been in the house on the 30th Sept.?—Yes.

Had he been in the house on 29th?—I cannot say for certain.

Had he been in the house on the 28th?—I think so.

Did you ask him for this \$54?—Yes.

When was it due; when ought he to have paid you?—On the 1st of October.

Had you seen him or spoken to him personally about this money?—No.

Do you know when he left the colony?—On the Thursday or Friday, the 6th or 7th of Oct.

Had not he been to your house between the 30th September and the 6th or 7th October?—Yes.

Where did you send this chit to?—To his place of business.

Why did you write to him when he was back in the house the same evening; had you turned him out?—No.

Did he sleep in the house again before he left?—Yes on the Sunday night, October 2nd.

When did you last see him in your house before he went away to Japan; you told me you last saw him on the 30th September, and now you say he was sleeping in your house on the second of October. When was he last in your house before he went to Japan?—I think it was on the Monday; he left my house on the Monday morning.

And to your knowledge he was not there again?—I did not see him.

But was he in your house again so far as you know?—Yes, he was.

When was that?—On the Wednesday morning.

And you did not see him?—No.

Was that the day when he took away some of his furniture?—No, he came again the next day. I do not know for certain that he came on Thursday. I only know from hearsay. On the Wednesday I heard him in the house.

Was he there on the Friday?—No.

Was he there on the Saturday?—No.

On what day did he take away some of his furniture?—That was on the Thursday afternoon.

Had you forbidden him to take away these things before he paid his account?—No.

Had he paid you anything then on account?—Yes.

When was it paid?—In the beginning of September.

Then he had not paid you anything?—No.

How did he get the furniture away; did he get the whole of it away?—I was not present.

You would know perfectly well from the appearance of the room afterwards; did he get the whole of his furniture away or only part of it?—He got the whole of his furniture away.

And he had to break open the doors to get it out?—So I was told.

You saw the door broken?—I saw the door broken, and I was told that he did it.

How came the door to be locked if you had not turned him out?—The door was shut from the inside. There is a bolt to the door. The boy when he opened the door did not remove the bolt, so it was broken.

You say the door was locked against him though he had a room?—It was not his room door; it was the front door of the house which was broken open.

Did you tell the boy not to let him in?—Yes, but not on that occasion, on a previous occasion.

Why did you tell your boy not to let him in?—I had a little quarrel with him and he left the house.

What was the quarrel about?—He said I had insulted him.

Because you asked him for money, I suppose?—No, it was previous to that. That was on the Sunday, but we made the quarrel up and he came back; he came back without my consent and then we made the quarrel up.

Do you know from whom he had the furniture?—Yes.

From whom?—From Mr. Bremner, of the Ordnance Department.

And he had to pay for it?—He has paid for part of it.

Mr. Bremner had a claim against him?—So I am told.

You saw Mr. Bremner about it?—No.

There were two Chinese furniture dealers who had claims against him too?—He bought some furniture.

Answer my question, yes or no?—I don't know.

You saw the two Chinese, or they saw you, about this matter?—No.

Did you tell Mr. Robinson these Chinese were willing to share the expense of bringing this man back from Japan?—No.

Did you mention Mr. Bremner's name to Mr. Robinson?—I might have done.

But did you?—I cannot say for certain.

You think you did?—Probably.

You probably mentioned these two Chinese also?—I am not aware of that.

Did the Chinese come to your house and try to get back their furniture?—Not that I know of.

Did you know that the Grill Room people had claims against him?—Yes.

How did you know that?—I was told so by the Grill Room people.

They were willing to join in the expense of getting Springford back?—I was not aware of that.

Did you never mention the Grill Room people to Mr. Robinson nor the fact that they had a claim?—I might have done.

Which of the Grill Room people was it you had a conversation with about this matter?—With one of the barmen.

You had a conversation with him? I asked him whether Springford owed him any money.

What did you say that for; what business was it of yours?—It was no business of mine, but it cropped up in the conversation.

Did you make any enquiries of Mr. Farmer as to whether Springford owed the Victoria Hotel anything?—No.

Did you take out a summons against Mr. Springford before he went away for the amount he owed you?—I was going to do.

Did you take a summons out or not?—Yes.

Then why did you answer you were going to do when you had done so. What was the amount you claimed in the summons?—\$54.

It was a writ.

And when you sent to serve it he had gone?—Yes.

Has he paid you since he came back?—No.

Have you been told that if you gave evidence against Mr. Robinson in this case no proceedings would be taken against yourself?—Yes.

Had you Mr. Emsley's authority for putting his name at the foot of the telegram?—No.

Who is Mr. J. T. Smith, whose name is put at the bottom; address Stanley Street?—There is no one of that name.

Why did you get Mr. Gutierrez to write out that telegram?—Mr. Robinson suggested that it would be just as well if somebody else wrote the telegram.

When were these words added which you said the manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha suggested?—After the draft had been written out.

What was the reason this suggestion was made?—So as to acquaint Mr. Springford to call at the office. He said perhaps it might be too late for the office to write to Springford.

When was it you got money from Mr. Robinson?—On the Tuesday.

In what shape did you get it?—In bank notes.

What denominations?—There was \$40 in \$5 and \$10 bills.

Why \$40, when the passage was \$35 only?—The balance was to pay for the expense incurred telegraphing to the steamboat company.

Do you remember the manager asking you what name to put on the receipt, and in whose name he should make it out?—Yes.

And do you remember looking in your pocket to find your card?—He asked me my name and I looked for my card. I did not have my card, and he asked in whose name he should make the receipt. I said the money was paid by Mr. Robinson, and the receipt was made out to him.

Was it only after you could not find your

card that you gave Robinson's name?—I cannot say for certain.

You are ashamed to tell a downright lie and you will not tell the truth?—Really I cannot remember.

Is it not a fact that when you went to Mr. Robinson's store there were two or three forms of message in your pocket?—No.

Have not you been dismissed from your office in consequence of this business?—No.

Were you not told you had better resign in consequence of this business?—No.

It would only take five or ten minutes to ask why you left?—I can show you a copy of my resignation.

Were you not told you had better resign on account of this business?—No.

You left in consequence of this business on your own account?—Yes.

And without it having been hinted at?—Yes.

You thought yourself your conduct was quite too bad to justify your being kept in any respectable office?—I would rather the thing was over before I rejoined. There is a possibility I may rejoin.

Have you been paid by Mr. Springford since he came back?—No.

Has he promised to pay you?—I have not spoken to him about it.

Have you spoken to him about the debt he owed you?—Yes.

Then why did you say just now you had not spoken to him about it?—It cropped up in conversation.

What was said last night about this debt?—Very little.

What was said; I did not ask how much or how little was said?—He said he would have paid me if he had had the money.

How did you know what name he left the colony under?—One of the men in the office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha told me there was a man of the name of Clayton.

How did you know that was Springford?—He described to me the man who bought the passage ticket and that was Emsley, and I suspected Emsley got Springford out.

How did you know he had gone in the Japan steamer?—I was told on the Saturday night by a man in the Hongkong Hotel.

By whom?—By Mr. Margelin.

Was there anybody in Robinson's office when the \$40 was paid to you?—Yes, Mr. Stokes.

He saw the money handed to you?—I think he did.

When was it you gave back to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha the receipt which you had got in Robinson's name?—It must have been in the week between the 24th and the 27th ult.

When did you hear that Springford was actually coming back?—I had a chit from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha asking me to call, and on the way I called at Mr. Robinson's office and asked him whether he had any information.

When did you first hear that Springford was on his way back?—On the same day, and I took back the receipt on the same day.

Did you pay any money?—Yes; I paid the balance of the telegram.

You did not tell us anything about that yesterday?—I was not asked.

How much money did you pay in addition?—\$6.

\$6 or \$6.50?—\$6 and one cent.

If that was Robinson's money why did not you bring him the receipt when you got it?—I did not think anything about it. When he handed me the money I asked him if he wanted to keep the receipt, and he said no.

Who put the name Smith on the telegram?—Is it your own writing?—Yes.

That was not suggested by Robinson?—The whole telegram was suggested by Robinson.

Was the putting of the address Stanley Street and the name J. T. Smith suggested by Mr. Robinson or was it your own idea?—My own idea, but that was not the telegram.

Was it not you who first suggested putting Emsley's name at the end of the telegram?—No.

You knew at that time that Emsley had helped the man away?—Yes.

And you knew Emsley was his personal friend did you not?—Yes.

Did you go and consult Mr. Grist on this subject before sending the telegram?—Not on this subject.

What was it?—I consulted Mr. Grist first previous to Springfield leaving the colony?

Did you go and see him after Springfield had left the colony about trying to get him back?—No; I did not see him about trying to get him back.

Didn't the manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha tell you that Mr. Robinson had complained of your using his name in the receipt and that he had nothing to do with this?—No.

Do you ever remember telling Mr. Robinson that the message included the words "Most important news awaiting you?"—That may have been used on one of the drafts.

Mr. Francis—Will your Worship note the words "one of the drafts." (To witness) answer truly man, weren't there three or four drafts?—No.

What did you mean by "one of the drafts?"—That was a mis-statement.

Mr. Francis—Now you told the truth for the first time since you were in the witness box and that was only by mistake.

Didn't you send that telegram entirely on your own account and told Robinson afterwards?—No.

Didn't Robinson ask you if you had put Emsley's name in the telegram and you said you did not?—No.

Why did you go and see Robinson; wasn't it because you were in a funk because of sending this telegram?—I was not in a funk. I was afraid the man would come and thrash me for my part in the thing.

Then why did you see a lawyer; wasn't it because you were in a funk because you had sent this lying telegram?—I went to see Mr. Grist about the telegram.

To find out whether you had put your foot into it or not?—Yes.

Are you an Englishman?—No.

What countryman are you?—I am a Dane.

Didn't Mr. Robinson tell you that you had no business to put his name in the receipt?—He told me so when he came to see me.

And he told you that he had nothing to do with the matter and knew nothing of the telegram?—No, he said I had no business to put his name to the receipt. I told him that it was his money and that it would be refunded to him if Springfield didn't come and that I acted as his agent in this matter.

Did not Mr. Robinson on the 27th ask you to go with him to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and tell the manager you had no right to use his name?—Yes.

Didn't you agree to go first and then refuse?—No, I refused first and afterwards agreed. I then intended to go with Robinson and tell the Nippon Yusen Kaisha the real facts. I did not go because Robinson was engaged. I did not think it necessary to go and tell the real facts to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Did Mr. Emsley guarantee the payment of Springfield's debt to you?—No.

Has anybody done so?—No.

When are you to be paid?—I do not know whether I shall be paid.

Did you give a statement of this affair to the Captain Superintendent of Police?—Yes.

And it was taken down in writing?—No.

Not by the Captain Superintendent of Police?—No.

Nor by anyone?—Not by the Captain Superintendent of Police.

Well by whom? Who took it down?—Mr. Emsley's solicitor.

Where was that?—At their office.

Was the Captain Superintendent of Police in the solicitor's office?—No.

The cross-examination of this witness lasted two hours.

Re-examined by Mr. Gedge, witness said—My father was a Dane and my mother was a Portuguese from Macao. When I had the conversations with Mr. Robinson in his store there was no one near enough at any time to overhear them. Previously to the telegram being dictated to me on Monday, the 10th October I had been to the office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and that was at Mr. Robinson's request. It was on the day I paid him the \$40 that the manager of the steamboat company suggested the addition of the words "Apply Passage Yusen" to the telegram, and therefore I put the words into the draft.

In reply to the Magistrate witness said—I have never borrowed money from defendant, and

I had never spoken to defendant before the 7th or 8th October. I first went to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on Monday, Oct. 10th, after I had seen Mr. Robinson, and then I found out the assumed name under which Springfield had gone. I saw Mr. Robinson again that day and on the second occasion he dictated the telegram to me, after I had informed him of the name under which Springfield had sailed. I knew Emsley as a friend of Springfield's. I knew they were both in the employ of defendant.

Francis William Stokes said—I am book-keeper for the Robinson Piano Company. I recognise the last witness Kliene. I have seen Kliene at our office many times. The first time I saw him in our office was last April or May. I remember him coming in in October. As near as I can recollect, I should say the first time he called in in October was the 11th or 12th. He was in conversation with Mr. Robinson. I saw money pass between Mr. Robinson and Mr. Kliene. The money was in the form of notes. I did not then know the amount. I subsequently discovered what the amount was—about four or five days afterwards. On the 17th October by Mr. Robinson's directions I made a cash book entry of \$40 to the debit of Mr. Kliene. Mr. Robinson asked me what balance I showed as per the cash book, and I gave the amount. I can't recollect what the sum was. Mr. Robinson told me he had not that amount in hand, and asked me at the same time if I remembered any items which had been paid away. I mentioned one or two items, amongst them the payment to Mr. Kliene, and Mr. Robinson told me he had a note of the payment to Mr. Kliene in his memorandum book, and I was then instructed by Mr. Robinson to make the entry of \$40. I was instructed to enter it as a loan to Mr. Kliene. When I mentioned the payment to Mr. Kliene Mr. Robinson said I should not have seen that. I never at any time overheard the conversations which took place between Mr. Robinson and Mr. Kliene. No one else was in the store at any time in a position to overhear the conversations.

Replying to Mr. Francis witness said—My seat in the store is between 30 and 40 feet from that of Mr. Robinson. The safe is in the wall nearest to Mr. Robinson's desk. I was making up the money to take to the bank on the day I saw Mr. Robinson hand Mr. Kliene the \$40. I think this was on the Friday, or it may have been on the Saturday. We bank with the National Bank of China, and the bank deposit book would show the date when the money was paid in. There is a chair on the left of Mr. Robinson's desk—that is on my side. I do not remember seeing Mr. Kliene writing at any time when he called into the shop. I was too busy to take any notice. Mr. Kliene's first visit was on the 10th or 11th of the month, and between that and the 14th and 15th when I saw the money handed over Mr. Kliene had been into the store four or five times at the least. I remember a little later in the month—I think it was on Monday, the 17th, the same date on which I made the cash entry—a letter coming from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for Mr. Robinson. Mr. Robinson was not in and I opened the letter, and when Mr. Robinson came in I gave it to him. Mr. Robinson remarked, "It has nothing to do with me" and redirected it to Mr. Kliene. Mr. Kliene's name was written on the letter, but I am not prepared to swear whether it went to Mr. Kliene or whether it went back to the Japan mail office. It was given back to the company's coolie with the words "Try Kliene" written on. I remember the day after this Mr. Robinson came in and said it was like Kliene's check to take a receipt in the name of the Robinson Piano Company. Mr. Robinson also remarked, "I gave him no authority to do so. Kliene did not come to the office on the 17th, but to the best of my belief he came in late in the afternoon of the 18th. Before this I remember Kliene coming into the shop. I introduced him to Mr. Robinson on the day after Springfield left and Kliene said he would like to know where Springfield was, as he owed him \$54 and had broken open his door and sold some of his furniture clandestinely. Mr. Robinson replied that he would like to know where Springfield was himself as he owed him some money too. I then went away from them to my work.

Re-examined by Mr. Gedge—I may have banked money before the day I referred to in the same week. If I banked money twice in that week I should say the day Kliene received the money was the day nearest the 8th. Without actually swearing it I believe it was Monday the 10th when Mr. Kliene came in and received the bank notes.

The bank deposit book mentioned by witness was sent for and on it being placed in his hand witness said in reply to Mr. Francis—There was a payment on the 7th October. The next was on the 13th and the next on the 18th. After looking at the book I should say that it was on the 13th that the \$40 was paid to Mr. Kliene. It could not be on the 7th October and it certainly was not on the 18th. I could not say for certain that Kliene was paid the money on the 13th. It may have been paid a day or two before. I have been in Mr. Robinson's employ since the 17th January last. I reside in Shelley street. I am personally acquainted with Mr. Emsley and Mr. Springfield. I have been in communication with both of them since Mr. Springfield returned from Japan.

Benjamin Emsley said—I was lately in the employ of Mr. Robinson—up to the 30th September. He has dismissed me. I have brought proceedings in the Supreme Court on account of that dismissal. Subsequently to my dismissal I joined Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Company as pianoforte tuner and repairer, that being a similar position to the one I occupied when employed by Mr. Robinson. In consequence of my joining Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Company Mr. Robinson has brought an action to restrain me from continuing in the employ of my present firm. All those proceedings are still pending. I cannot allege any reason why defendant should desire the presence of Mr. Springfield in this colony. I am a friend of Springfield. He left the colony on Friday, the 7th October, in the name of H. Clayton. He went to Kobe and Yokohama by the *Riojun Maru* and returned by the *Hiroshima Maru* on Sunday morning, October 30th. In the meantime I had had no communication with him. He did not send me a telegram. I did not send him the telegram produced and did not sign "Emsley" or "J. T. Smith Stanley Street." When Springfield returned he sent me a chit and I went to see him. We went together to the Telegraph Office and saw the telegram.

Mr. Francis—I have no questions.

Subsequently Mr. Francis asked witness if he had ever sent a letter to Springfield and he replied that he had sent a letter to him under cover of one to another person, but Mr. Springfield had not yet received the letter. He left Japan before it got there.

George Springfield said—I was lately in the employ of defendant. I left Mr. Robinson's employ on the 5th of October. I left because I could not get on with him. He deducted some part of my salary for September. First of all he gave me \$45 and then he gave me another \$45 instead of the equivalent of £13 sterling. I went to Japan on the *Riojun Maru*. I went under the name of Clayton because I did not want Mr. Robinson to know I was going away. I thought he would stop me if he knew I was on board and make me serve out my three years' agreement. I arrived in Kobe on the 14th October, and when I got there I received a telegram. I received it from the agent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. I understood from the telegram that Mrs. Springfield was coming out to Hongkong, and of course I came back immediately. My passage was paid, as the Nippon Yusen Kaisha agent told me. The telegram was signed by Mr. Emsley, and in consequence I thought it was quite true. I came back in consequence of that telegram.

By Mr. Francis—I came to work for Mr. Robinson on a three years' engagement at a salary of £13 sterling per month. I was in Singapore for a month and I came to Hongkong in June. Robinson and Co. paid my passage out and under agreement it is a debt due to the firm. My salary was to commence on my arrival at Singapore. I arrived at Singapore at the beginning of May. When at Singapore I received an advance of \$50 in addition to my salary, and on my arrival in Hongkong I got an advance of \$40. At the end of June I got my

full pay, but I cannot say whether anything was deducted at the end of July. At the beginning of October I received \$45 and then \$45 on account of my September salary. I got the whole of my wages less something of the money I borrowed. I got \$100 as a loan at the end of September. I think I owe Mr. Robinson \$145. I left Mr. Robinson's employment for several reasons. One was that he said he purposed deducting my passage money out of my salary at the rate of \$15 a month. I owe Mr. Kliene \$54 and Mr. Bremner \$10. I don't know how much I owe the Grill Room. No Chinaman has any claim against me for furniture. I have remitted money home to my wife. Since I came back I have been living with Mr. Stokes in Shelley Street. I had no employment to go to in Japan when I left here.

A. S. Mihara said—I am in the employ of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha in Hongkong. I know a man of the name of Kliene. He paid a visit to the general office between the 7th and 10th of October. The first time he saw me was on the 10th some time in the afternoon. He asked me to telegraph to our office in Kobe that Clayton's return passage to Hongkong had been paid. I asked for a deposit. As he was to telegraph to Mr. Clayton in Kobe I suggested he should put in the telegram a direction to apply at the office. The words I suggested were "Apply Yusen ticket." Kliene paid me \$40 and I gave him a deposit receipt. The receipt bears the date, and I have got a counterfoil of the receipt with the date. The receipt was written by my cashier. On looking at the counterfoil I see that it is dated the 11th and it must have been on the 11th that I gave the receipt to Mr. Kliene. It was returned on the 24th October. I have not got the receipt now. It has since been loaned to Mr. Robinson—some time after the 30th Oct., when Mr. Clayton had arrived here. The receipt produced is the one in question and is signed by me. (Receipt, made out in the name of defendant, handed in.) I wired to our office at Kobe on the 11th October. I asked Mr. Kliene in what name I should make out the receipt. I did not know Mr. Kliene's name at that time—and he told me to make it out in the name of the Robinson Piano Company. On the 24th October I wrote to the Robinson Piano Company and it was returned with a pencil mark on the cover "Not for us. Try Kliene." The letter announced that Clayton was returning by the *Hiroshima Maru*. I wrote to Kliene the same day.

10th November.

On taking his seat on the bench the Magistrate remarked—There has been some reference to civil proceedings since this criminal case has been instituted. Therefore I will hand over to you gentlemen a summons taken out by Kliene.

The summons was thereupon handed down to the solicitor's table. It had been taken out by Kliene against Springford.

Mr. Mihara, manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, in answer to Mr. Francis—After thinking it over last night I have concluded that it was on the 10th October I first saw Kliene. I also saw him on the 11th October, when I received the money from him. On the 10th Kliene was making enquiries in the general office about a prepaid passage, and he was shown in to me. On the Monday he did not say from whom he had come or for whom he was making enquiries. I knew who Kliene was from my clerks and did not enquire his name. I think it was on the afternoon of the 10th that I saw him. I don't remember what time it was on the Tuesday that I saw him, but I distinctly remember his paying me money. I asked him what name to put in the receipt. He was looking in his pocket for his card and he did not have one. Then he said, "You can put it in the name of the Robinson Piano Company." He did not give any reason. I did not at that time ask him what his own name was. It was on Saturday afternoon, October 22nd, that I received a telegram saying Clayton (Springford) was coming back. It was on the Monday following I wrote Mr. Robinson. The letter was brought back by our coolie with the words "Not for us. Try Kliene" written on it. I then sent a chit to Kliene asking him to come round to see me. Kliene came and settled the account. I told Kliene that Robinson had returned the letter I had sent him. I do not remember that Kliene said anything special in

reply. Some days afterwards Mr. Robinson called on me. He referred to this letter being sent to his office, said Mr. Kliene had no authority to use his name, and that he would see Kliene about it.

In answer to the Magistrate witness said—When Kliene saw me on the 10th he did not make any enquiry as to the name a certain passenger had gone under.

Mr. Gedge—That is the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Francis—I have no witnesses to call.

Mr. Gedge said the charges upon which defendant was before his worship were that he forged this telegram which had been put in evidence, that he uttered the telegram knowing the same to be forged, and that he unlawfully and without due authority transmitted by telegraph such telegram, and that he unlawfully and without due authority uttered as a telegram a message or communication which he knew to be not a telegram. That shortly was the charge upon which defendant was before his worship. He submitted that there was ample evidence, and that a *prima facie* case had been made out for defendant to take his trial at the Supreme Court at the sessions. He submitted that the evidence was too strong for defendant to be acquitted by his worship; that it was so strong that his worship was bound in the interests of public justice to send defendant for trial at the Supreme Court. His worship was told by the learned counsel for the defence that Kliene's evidence from the commencement to the end was a tissue of lies. He submitted that it was not so at all. Kliene had been most severely cross-examined, and the cross-examination failed to break down his evidence in the smallest detail. He contradicted himself at times, but immediately afterwards he put the matter right in which he had contradicted himself. He would admit that Kliene was as bad, or nearly as bad, as Robinson, but it was Robinson who originated the telegram, who conceived the idea, who used Kliene as his tool and as his cat-paw, who got Kliene to do his dirty work. Learned counsel laid great stress on Kliene's antecedents, on his relations with Springford, as to the way he treated Springford and as to his general conduct in his office, and such like. Also he laid great stress on his part in forging and manufacturing this telegram. He painted Kliene in the dirtiest of colours, but that did not in any way release Robinson from his part in the affair. Learned counsel would tell his worship that Kliene ought to stand side by side with Robinson in the dock. That might be so, but it was better in the interests of justice to catch one of the criminals by using the other's evidence to catch him than to allow both to go free. The evidence of Kliene, he would point out, was supported and corroborated in many small details, some of which were very important ones. The first detail, and he thought one of the strongest bits of evidence against Robinson, was what defendant said to the Inspector of Police when arrested. That detail had not been contradicted. The Inspector of Police was not cross-examined. The Inspector said—"Defendant said, 'It's damned annoying; it's too absurd. Must I go now? I replied, as soon as possible; you can finish your letter and put things a bit straight. He then asked if he could see his solicitor. I said I could not wait until he had had a consultation with his solicitor, and defendant then began writing a note. After he had written a few words he scored one word out and remarked, 'I suppose that damned Chinaman gave it away.' Gave what away? Gave the telegram away; gave the \$40 away that this man Springford might be brought back from Japan. His worship would remember that before he said these words to the Inspector he had Mr. Dennys' letter before him accusing him of sending this telegram and claiming damages. What was his reply to that letter? It was that he knew nothing about the matter. If he had been a perfectly innocent man and had known nothing about it would he not rather have said to the Inspector, 'I know nothing whatever about this, who has been putting me in for this?' or some words to that effect. The words he used were the words of a guilty man taken off his guard. He submitted that that bit of evidence of itself was sufficient to cause his worship to send this gentleman to the Supreme Court. Mr. Gedge pointed out the corroborative evidence given by

Stokes as to the date on which the \$40 was paid to Kliene, and called attention to the fact that when Stokes said he had seen the \$40 passed on the 11th October Robinson remarked, "You should not have seen that." Why, asked Mr. Gedge, should an innocent man say that? If Robinson had been merely loaning the money there would have been no harm whatever in anyone seeing it. Mr. Gedge contended that Kliene stood the whole cross-examination very well. No doubt, as his worship could see, he was extremely nervous. The learned Queen's Counsel in his able—he might say splendid—way did his best to break him down. Nobody in this colony, or perhaps in the whole of England, could cross-examine like the learned Queen's Counsel. He did his best to break Kliene down, but he did not succeed. The only slip in the whole cross-examination was when Kliene used the word drafts one time instead of draft, but what did it matter if Robinson's desk were covered with papers if Robinson had a hand in dictating what was on them? In conclusion he again submitted that the evidence in this case was too strong for his worship to deal with the matter summarily and that he was bound in the interests of justice to send defendant to take his trial at the Supreme Court.

Mr. Francis then addressed the court for the defence. In the first place he submitted that this was not a case for the Supreme Court at all. His worship under the provisions of section 6 of Ordinance 14 of 1894 had full power to deal with it. It might be dealt with summarily, though undoubtedly it might be, on the other hand, committed to the Supreme Court; but it was a case of very far less importance than many with which his worship habitually dealt in the exercise of his summary jurisdiction. Therefore he asked his worship to deal with the case summarily. With reference to the merits of the case, he would ask his worship, in considering it, to distinguish between two things: first the simple getting back of Mr. Springford into the colony, and secondly the means which were alleged to have been made use of, and undoubtedly were, for the purpose of bringing him back. It was only in so far as those means were criminal that his worship had in the least to be concerned with them. His worship would very easily conceive that however, from one point of view, undesirable it might be or reprehensible that any trick should be played upon any man, still there was nothing in itself criminal in having by any means which were not fraudulent or criminal in themselves getting Mr. Springford back into the colony. Undoubtedly an offence had been committed. Undoubtedly that offence was committed by Kliene, taking the definition of the word telegram given in the Ordinance. The document which Kliene handed in to the Telegraph Office to be despatched to Japan was undoubtedly a forged telegram for the purposes of section 6 of the Ordinance. In defining a telegram a sub-section of section 6 said:—"For the purposes of this section the expression telegram means a written or printed message or communication sent to or delivered at a post office, or the office of a telegraph company, for transmission by telegraph, or delivered by the post office or a telegraph company as a message or communication transmitted by telegraph." Kliene did undoubtedly hand in for transmission by telegraph to Springford in Japan a message or communication which was undoubtedly a false document, and in so far as it was a false document a forgery. But the making of a false document was not in itself a forgery. For it to be a forgery it must be a false document made with the intention to defraud. That was the definition in common law. The only question for his worship was, was he satisfied on the evidence—because it was perfectly clear that Kliene committed the offence—that in sending the message Kliene was Mr. Robinson's agent and servant, and that the sending of that telegram in that form was authorised and directed by Robinson. It was not a question as to whether Mr. Robinson knew or did not know of what was going on. A man might have knowledge of a thing like that sort going on without necessarily having any participation in it or being responsible for what was being done by other people. It was not a question whether Mr. Robinson was anxious or desirous to get this

Springford back into the colony and was ready and willing to pay his passage back or was not. The question was whether Mr. Robinson was an active party to the despatch of the telegram by which Springford was brought back. Of the two he submitted to his worship that Kliene had really shown himself far more hostile and antagonistic to Springford, and far more anxious to get him back than Robinson. There was evidence that Kliene was most active from the very moment Springford disappeared in trying to find out what had become of him. He made enquiries, and he went to the Piano Warehouse for the purpose of seeing Ruchwaldy with regard to Springford. Ruchwaldy was not in. Mr. Stokes happened to be standing by, and he introduced him to Mr. Robinson. The conversation naturally turned on Springford, by whom both had suffered. Mr. Robinson had taken no steps up to that time to get this man back. It was only after Kliene came and saw him and spoke to him on the subject that Mr. Robinson saw his solicitors and ascertained that any legal proceedings to get Springford back from Japan by sending a warrant would be very troublesome and very expensive and Mr. Kliene on being told that went away. His worship would have seen what the nature of their defence was from the cross-examination of Kliene. Kliene came back on Monday with a number of drafts in his pocket. He had several forms of telegrams written out on pieces of paper. He suggested this as an admirable scheme for the purpose of getting Springford back as it was too expensive to get him back by legal means, and his worship would remember what Mr. Gedge injudiciously called his worship's special attention to, and that was to one or two little slips on this subject which Kliene made. It was quite by accident that Kliene let out the fact that the message was written on paper taken out of his own pocket. It was quite accidental also that he made use of the word "drafts" when he asked him if a certain phrase had been used in connection with the telegram—"Important news awaiting you here." Kliene admitted that this phrase formed a portion of one of the drafts. That was exactly what he was endeavouring to obtain from him by cross-examination—a clear issue that he had certain drafts and that he had gone and shown these drafts to Mr. Robinson. Kliene admitted that a discussion arose between them as to whether it was right or proper to send such a telegram, and Mr. Robinson turned up a book, "Every man his own lawyer," which showed clearly that to send such a telegram was a criminal offence. Accordingly Mr. Robinson declined to have anything to do with it and advised Mr. Kliene to drop it. Mr. Kliene, as he admitted, went and saw Mr. Grist on the subject of something or another—he would not tell them what—in connection with the despatch of such a telegram.

Mr. Gedge—He went after the telegram had been despatched to Mr. Springford.

Mr. Francis, continuing, said Kliene went and saw Mr. Grist in reference to this telegram. Then his worship would bear in mind Kliene's very contradictory statements, as to when and how and as to the times he saw Mr. Robinson and as to when he was at the Nippon Yusen Kaisha office. He thought it was perfectly clear to his worship that when Kliene went to Mr. Robinson as he said on the Monday he must have already made all the enquiries which were possible, and found out not merely that Springford had gone to Japan and the name of the steamer he had gone by, but also the name he had gone by, and he came with the information to Mr. Robinson. It was only reasonable to suppose that when he came to Mr. Robinson to give him this information and to propose this suggestion to him he brought with him drafts of telegrams prepared. The next important portion of Kliene's evidence was that on that very day and at that very time he got \$40 from Mr. Robinson. With reference to that \$40 there were two witnesses—Kliene and Mr. Stokes. Undoubtedly Mr. Robinson did give Kliene this \$40, and this \$40 was given to him to repay him the money he had paid for Springford's passage back; but it was given to him, as Stokes in the first part of his evidence clearly stated, either on Friday or Saturday, the 14th or 15th of October, and not on the 11th.

Kliene had himself arranged a message and despatched and paid for it before he came to Mr. Robinson and asked him for this contribution towards the common expense of bringing Springford back. His worship, in considering Stokes' evidence, would bear in mind that Springford had been living with him ever since he came back, and that undoubtedly Stokes and Springford and Emsley were all hand and glove. His worship would remember this matter would have been the subject of discussion between them. Both Springford and Emsley had admittedly promised Kliene that no proceedings whatever would be taken against him, either civil or criminal, in respect of his action in this matter. All three either were or had been in the employ of Mr. Robinson and apparently had grievances against him. In considering Stokes' evidence he asked his worship to look at it closely. To begin with he was perfectly clear in his answer that on the 17th October this money was entered in the book and debited to Kliene, and he also said he had seen it paid over three or four days before the day on which he made the entry. Then he (Mr. Francis) endeavoured to bring him a little closer. He asked him if at the time the money was paid over the safe was not open and the money being handled for the purpose of being paid into the bank, and he said that it certainly was. He was perfectly clear on the point that the money was being taken out of the safe, that he had just got it from Mr. Robinson to put into the bank, and that he was standing at his own desk filling up the memorandum for paying in. When he asked him the question then as to what day it was that they paid money into the bank he said it was either Friday or Saturday. He was perfectly certain and repeated it in two or three forms that the money was paid by Mr. Robinson on the Friday or Saturday and on the date and at the time they were about to pay money into the bank. Questioned again, he said that if there was more than one payment into the bank during that week it was on the date nearest the eighth. On the bank paying-in book being brought he found that there was a payment on the 7th. He said that could not be the date. There was also a payment into the bank on the 18th, which also could not be the date. Therefore it must have been on the 13th, when there was another payment made into the bank. But in the meantime he had seen how that date would not fit in with Kliene's evidence and in the most barefaced manner he insisted on saying that it was some day between the 8th and 13th that the money was paid to Kliene. He asked his worship to consider that Springford had been living with Stokes since he came back, and to consider the relations existing between Emsley, the prosecutor in the case, and Springford. They were late employes of Robinson and were apparently thoroughly dissatisfied with him, and he asked his worship to consider whether or not they had not agreed among themselves to get Mr. Robinson into a hole if they possibly could, and depending upon Kliene, to whom they had promised complete immunity from all proceedings for his undoubtedly criminal conduct, they had induced him to come forward and give this evidence against Mr. Robinson. Mr. Francis touched on other points which arose in the evidence. Alluding to the civil proceedings which are pending, he asked his worship to consider what effect it would have on them if a conviction were secured in this case. Emsley and Springford hoped to succeed in their civil proceedings by getting Robinson convicted in this case. They could not get any damages from Kliene if they sued him for 50 years. Kliene was not worth powder and shot. Mr. Robinson was, and Kliene was promised immunity from any proceedings, civil or criminal, to come there and give evidence against Mr. Robinson. In conclusion Mr. Francis again asked his worship to dispose of the case summarily.

On being formally asked if he had anything to say,

Defendant said he reserved his defence.

Defendant was then committed to take his trial at the criminal sessions, which open on the 18th instant. Bail—\$1,000—was allowed as before.

THE BANK OF CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS, LIMITED, AND ITS CHINESE SHAREHOLDERS.

Mr. Byron Brenan, the British Assessor and H.M.'s Consul-General at Shanghai, has now made the following protest against the judgment of the Shanghai Taotai in the suit brought by the above Bank against Wai Poo-kee and Woo Chee-dong:—

I dissent from the judgment given by Tsai Taotai in the case of the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits *versus* Wai Poo-kee and Woo Chee-dong for the following reasons:—

The Taotai states in his judgment that "the most important principle involved in this case is as to what law should be applied in giving judgment thereon, and whether the special agreement should be binding on the defendants." I complain that in giving his judgment the Taotai has not followed the only law applicable in the case—that is, Chinese law. By Chinese law a Chinese subject is held bound by any contract he may enter into of his own free will. In this case Wai Poo-kee and Woo Chee-dong, in consideration of their being allowed to take shares, contracted to pay certain sums of money when called upon, and in the event of any question arising between them and the Bank, to have such questions decided according to English law. Wai Poo-kee, that is, agreed that his liabilities would be the same as those of any English shareholder. It was perfectly lawful for him to make such a contract, and it was the duty of the Chinese Court to ascertain what an English shareholder's liabilities would have been under similar circumstances, and then decide that Wai Poo-kee was equally liable.

The Taotai argues that Chinese subjects are to be governed by the laws of their own country. This I admit; and the Taotai will also doubtless admit that in England, France, Germany, and the United States, the laws of these countries are applicable when their respective subjects are concerned. And yet it is a matter of common occurrence in these countries, especially in cases of marine insurance and average, that contracts are made in which it is stipulated that in certain given circumstances a claim shall be decided according to the law of some other country; and then, when a claim arises, the Court before which it is brought ascertains what that other country's law is on the subject, and gives judgment in accordance therewith.

The Taotai has apparently failed to grasp the meaning of Art. II of the Chefoo Convention. Its meaning is simply that in China British subjects are under British jurisdiction, and Chinese subjects are under Chinese jurisdiction. There had heretofore been some confusion on this point in the minds of Chinese officials, and they occasionally maintained that the word *hui tung* (jointly) used in Art. XVI and XVII of the Tientsin Treaty indicated that in cases of dispute between British and Chinese subjects, a joint tribunal should be held in which the British and Chinese officials should have equal powers. The Convention disposed of this erroneous idea.

Although it has no bearing on the present case I must demur to another statement made by the Taotai, for if it is allowed to pass unchallenged, it would have serious consequences in all commercial transactions. The Taotai states that by Chinese law "a man may not be forced to pay extra money on his shares against his will." This is not correct. If a business in which several partners have each put in a certain sum of money becomes bankrupt, the partners are responsible to the creditors for the full amount of their debts; and Chinese law will require them to pay extra money on their shares.

I have also to complain of the unnecessary length to which these proceedings were allowed by the Court to be protracted. The Taotai in his judgment states that the most important principle involved is whether the special agreement between the plaintiffs and the defendants should be binding on the defendants. This is the question which on the 9th of September I requested the Court to decide; and the decision could have been given as well on the 9th of September as on the 24th of October. Although the Taotai must have already made up his mind

that, in the words of his judgment, this agreement "must be cancelled and made null and void," yet he allowed the proceedings to continue as if he intended to give due consideration to the terms of the agreement, and at the very time that the defendants were insisting that English law had no bearing whatever on the case he allowed them to waste the time of the Court by quoting pages from English law books, and thus unnecessarily prolonging the proceedings at great expense to the British plaintiffs.

BYRON BRENNAN.

29th October.

THE CANTON VOLUNTEERS.

Notices were sent round Shameen on the 2nd November by the Captain of the local Defence Corps as follows:—

"In order to test the efficacy of the arrangements made for assembling the Shameen Defence Corps, some time during the next few days an alarm will be given.

"This notice is issued in order that Residents may not be unnecessarily alarmed.

"F. B. SMITH,
"Captain.

"Canton, 2nd November 1898."

In pursuance of the above notice an alarm was made by ringing a bell through the streets of the settlement at 11 a.m. on Saturday. The foreigners at once left their offices, ran to the rendezvous at the back of the British Consulate, where arms were served out to them, and forming different companies took up the positions allotted to them. The compradores, boys, and coolies ran to see what was the matter, and seemed much disappointed that it was only what they deemed a false alarm.

THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ABOLISHED PROVINCIAL GOVERNORSHIPS.

An Imperial decree was issued by the Empress Dowager on the 1st November re-establishing the Governorships of Kwangtung, Hupeh, and Yunnan, which were abolished by the Emperor a short time ago as unnecessary, the functions being amalgamated with those of the Viceroy.

Luk Fo-lam, late Governor of Szechuen, has been appointed Governor of Kwangtung, Tsang Woo Governor of Hupeh, and Ting 'tsan-tak Governor of Yunnan.

At Canton the Governor's Yamen is now undergoing cleaning and renovation in preparation for the reception of the new Governor. The writers and runners who were dismissed when the office was abolished are now being re-engaged.

THE DEFENCE OF CANTON.

In view of the numerous disturbances in Kwangsi and in some of the districts of Kwangtung, and also in consequence of the frequent robberies within and outside the city of Canton, His Excellency the Viceroy Tan memorialized the Throne upon the question of raising volunteer soldiers within the districts under his jurisdiction. A reply has been received approving the plan and ordering the Viceroy to strictly carry out such arrangements as are necessary for the defence of Canton and its vicinity. Thereupon His Excellency ordered the Punyu and Namhoi Magistrates to issue notifications calling upon the San-sz, or principal inhabitants, to appoint an experienced man as a representative for each street to attend at meetings to be held in the several charitable institutions, such as the Oi Yuk Tong, Kwong Chai Hospital, Kwong Yan Hospital, &c., to deliberate upon the best method for the defence of Canton, the expenses to be levied upon the inhabitants, and to frame regulations, &c. It is understood that each shop is to spare one or two men for enrolment in the Volunteer Corps without pay. Commandant Ho is also enjoined to see to the arrangement of his navy and keep a strict look-out.

Capt. Reculoux of the French navy is transferred from the port of Lorient to the charge of the naval division of Cochin-China, and to the command of the cruiser *Triomphante*.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN JAPAN.

RESIGNATION OF THE PROGRESSIST MINISTERS.

Tokyo, 31st October.

A special Cabinet Council was opened this morning at 9 a.m., at which Count Okuma, Mr. Oishi, Mr. Ohigashi and Mr. Inukai were present. At 11 a.m. Count Saigo and Viscount Katsura arrived. Shortly after noon, Count Okuma waited on the Emperor and tendered his resignation, and Mr. Oishi and two other Ministers belonging to the Progressist faction followed his example.

The Emperor directed that Count Okuma and all the other Ministers, Vice-Ministers, the Directors of Bureaux should remain in their offices for the present.

Count Okuma alleges illness as the reason for his resignation.

It is reported that Marquis Saigo and Viscount Katsura are resolved to resign in case a new Ministry is organized by Count Okuma.

Marquis Yamagata, who is in Kyoto, will arrive in Tokyo in the course of to-day.

An Imperial messenger is said to have visited Count Itagaki yesterday, after which the Count endeavoured to organize a Coalition Cabinet of Liberals and men belonging to the Strong Clan party. Under this scheme Marquis Saigo would be premier, Baron Ito Miyoji Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Count Matsugata Minister for Finance; but Marquis Saigo is said to have declined, and would not consent even to accept the portfolio temporarily until Marquis Ito returned.—*Kobe Chronicle*.

The following telegram has been received from Tokyo:—

"8th November.

"Yamagata (General, Marquis) has accepted the position of Prime Minister; other Ministers are of Satsuma and Choshu Clans."

NEW BALMORAL GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the above company was held at the company's offices, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, on Saturday at noon for the purpose of passing two resolutions, one having reference to the sale of the undertaking of the company and the other to the appointment of liquidator. Mr. H. Humphreys presided, and there were also present: Messrs. T. F. Hough, E. Georg, G. Murray Bain, P. Jordan, A. H. Mancell, C. Ewens, W. H. Potts, Captain Tillett, E. H. Joseph, W. D. Sutton, E. S. Kelly, A. G. Stokes, S. Rustonjee, E. A. Hardoon, J. J. Leiria, B. B. dos Remedios, G. C. Cox, J. A. Tarrant, A. P. Nobbs, W. C. Taylor, Ho Tung, Ho Fook, Hung Tsin, Lau Chu Pak, Li Fuk Sang, Sin Tak Fan, Wong Tsuk Yan, Wong Fook.

The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, at a private meeting of shareholders held on the 3rd August last, Mr. Hart Buck explained to you the position of the company, and it was resolved at that meeting that a copy of the Chairman's speech and the report of the Mining Engineer should be circulated among the shareholders, and that work at the mines should be stopped. The reports have been duly circulated, and work at the mines stopped by wire. At the earnest wish of several of the largest shareholders, representing in the aggregate more than half the capital of the Company, we decided to call you together at once to pass or reject the resolutions which I shall put to you. Before proposing the resolution I will ask Mr. Ewens to read you the agreement referred to in the first resolution.

Mr. EWENS read the agreement.

The CHAIRMAN—I have to propose—"That the agreement dated the nineteenth day of October, 1898, made between the Company of the one part and Queen Mines, Limited, of the other part, for the sale of the undertaking of the Company to Queen Mines, Limited, for \$25,000 to be paid and satisfied by the allotment of 100,000 fully paid up shares in Queen Mines, Limited, of 25 cents each, be and the same is hereby ratified."

Mr. RUSTOMJEE seconded and the proposition was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose—"That the Company be wound up voluntarily and that William Hutton Potts be, and he is hereby appointed liquidator for the purpose of such winding up."

Mr. GEORG seconded and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. A confirmatory meeting will be held on Wednesday fortnight.

THE INTERPORT RIFLE MATCH.

HONGKONG'S SHOOTING.

Hongkong shot in the annual interport match on the 8th November over the Association Range at Kowloon. The atmospheric conditions were all that could have been desired, except that the wind was a little gusty at times. Some capital shooting was witnessed, every shot fired finding a place on the target. A summary of the shooting shows 148 bulls, 91 inners, 22 magpies, and only seven outers. At the 200 yards range a total of 314 was put up, Watson heading the team with 34. Lieut. Grover made a possible at 500 yards, where the aggregate of the team was 315. That steady marksman G. P. Lammert, who is always good at the long ranges, topped the score at 600 yards with 33. The total at this range was 305, thus making a grand total of 934. The umpires were: for Shanghai Mr. A. Chapman, for Singapore Mr. C. V. Ladds, for Hongkong Mr. C. Ford and in the butts Messrs. A. Chapman and C. Ford. Following are the full scores:—

| 200 YARDS. | Total. |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Mr. A. Watson ... 5555554 | 34 |
| Lt. A. Grover, R.M.L.I. 5445555 | 33 |
| Mr. E. Robinson ... 4545455 | 32 |
| Mr. G. P. Lammert ... 4555445 | 32 |
| Mr. A. H. Skelton ... 4545554 | 32 |
| Sergt. Bowery, R.E. ... 5544544 | 31 |
| Mr. D. McLennan ... 4554544 | 31 |
| Capt. Hibbert, K.O.R. ... 4544454 | 30 |
| Mr. G. H. Coles ... 5454354 | 30 |
| Corpl. Cosgrove, K.O.R. 5354534 | 29 |

| 500 YARDS. | Total. |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Lieut. Grover ... 5555555 | 35 |
| Mr. E. Robinson ... 5455555 | 34 |
| Mr. A. Watson ... 5544555 | 33 |
| Sergt. Bowery ... 5455545 | 33 |
| Mr. D. McLennan ... 5545554 | 33 |
| Mr. G. H. Coles ... 4455554 | 32 |
| Mr. G. P. Lammert ... 4354555 | 31 |
| Mr. A. H. Skelton ... 5445435 | 30 |
| Capt. Hibbert ... 5533553 | 29 |
| Corpl. Cosgrove ... 5535322 | 25 |

| 600 YARDS. | Total. |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Mr. G. P. Lammert ... 5555544 | 33 |
| Mr. A. H. Skelton ... 4555445 | 32 |
| Mr. A. Watson ... 5455454 | 32 |
| Mr. D. McLennan ... 5554535 | 32 |
| Lieut. Grover ... 5354455 | 31 |
| Capt. Hibbert ... 5543554 | 31 |
| Sergeant Bowery ... 4445553 | 30 |
| Mr. G. H. Coles ... 5444345 | 29 |
| Corporal Cosgrove ... 5445425 | 29 |
| Mr. E. Robinson ... 2534534 | 26 |

| AGGREGATE. | 200 | 500 | 600 | Total. |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Mr. A. Watson ... | 34 | 33 | 32 | 99 |
| Lieut. Grover ... | 33 | 35 | 31 | 99 |
| Mr. G. P. Lammert ... | 32 | 31 | 33 | 96 |
| Mr. D. McLennan ... | 31 | 33 | 32 | 96 |
| Mr. A. H. Skelton ... | 32 | 30 | 32 | 94 |
| Sergt. Bowery ... | 31 | 33 | 30 | 94 |
| Mr. E. Robinson ... | 32 | 34 | 28 | 92 |
| Mr. G. H. Coles ... | 30 | 32 | 29 | 91 |
| Capt. Hibbert ... | 30 | 29 | 31 | 90 |
| Corpl. Cosgrove ... | 29 | 25 | 29 | 83 |

Grand total ... 934

SINGAPORE'S SCORE.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS,"

SINGAPORE, 9th November.

In the Inter-Colonial Shooting Match Singapore's score was 923.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Some very good scores were made in the match with the King's Own Regiment, which was shot on Saturday afternoon and resulted in a win for the Association by 60 points. The following are the scores:—

ASSOCIATION.

| | 200 | 500 | 600 | Total. |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| yards. yards. yards. | | | | |
| Mr. D. McLennan... | 35 | 35 | 31 | 101 |
| Mr. A. Watson ... | 35 | 34 | 30 | 99 |
| Mr. G. H. Coles, R.N. | 34 | 33 | 31 | 98 |
| Capt. Warren, R.A. | 35 | 33 | 30 | 98 |
| Sergt. Bowery, R.E. | 31 | 30 | 33 | 94 |
| Mr. E. Robinson ... | 33 | 32 | 29 | 94 |
| Sapper Clarke, R.E. | 31 | 24 | 34 | 89 |
| Mr. G. P. Lammert | 31 | 30 | 26 | 87 |
| Corporal Hills, R.E. | 30 | 25 | 29 | 84 |
| Mr. A. H. Skelton... | 27 | 27 | 22 | 76 |

920

KING'S OWN REGIMENT.

| | 200 | 500 | 600 | Total. |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| yards. yards. yards. | | | | |
| Capt. Hibbert... | 33 | 32 | 30 | 95 |
| Sergt. Creedon ... | 33 | 32 | 30 | 95 |
| Colr.-Sergt. Heap... | 31 | 30 | 31 | 92 |
| Sergt. Bacon ... | 32 | 33 | 24 | 89 |
| Corpl. Cosgrove ... | 29 | 26 | 29 | 84 |
| Lient. Lloyd ... | 30 | 29 | 25 | 84 |
| Private Thornton .. | 31 | 28 | 24 | 83 |
| Lie.-Corpl. Cornfield | 29 | 27 | 25 | 81 |
| Lie.-Corpl. Donohue | 32 | 24 | 24 | 80 |
| Colr.-Sergt. Rogers | 30 | 30 | 17 | 77 |

860

GOLF.

The following are the teams selected to play in a match on the links at Happy Valley between the Naval Members and Civilians this afternoon, starting at about 2.15 p.m.:—

| NAVAL. | CIVILIAN. |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Capt. Urmston, R.M.L.I. | plays Dr. J. A. Lawson |
| Capt. Montgomerie, C.B. | " Mr. G. Stewart |
| Lieut. Brooke | " Mr. A. S. Anton |
| Lieut. McKenzie-Grieve | " Mr. C. W. May |
| Com. Taylor | " Mr. O. M. G. Burnie |
| Major Leake, R.M.L.I. | " Mr. P. de C. Morris |
| Capt. Sir E. (Chichester) | " Mr. C. A. Tomes |
| Com. Donner | " Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins |
| Capt. B. M. Rumsey | " Mr. E. A. Ram |
| Mr. D. Hay | " Mr. A. S. McClure |
| Lieut. Brumby, U.S.N. | " Mr. H. L. Dalrymple |

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

NAVAL MEMBERS VERSUS CIVILIANS.

On Wednesday last a friendly match was played on the links at Happy Valley, which had been specially reserved, eleven a side facing the "tee." Lunch was served at the Club house at 1.15, and after full justice had been done thereto, a start was made shortly before 2 o'clock, and the last couple completed their round soon after 4.30. On paper the Civilians had much the advantage, but, as in other games, so in golf, there is no such thing as a certainty, and the Navy men succeeded in reducing the margin by about one half.

The captain of the Club was present during the afternoon, and showed his continued interest in the game by taking the results of the various matches as the couples came in.

Subjoined are the details of the play:—

| NAVAL MEMBERS. | holes. | CIVILIANS. | holes. |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| Capt. Urmston, R.M.L.I. | 0 | Dr. J. A. Lawson | 7 |
| Capt. Montgomerie, R.N. | 4 | Mr. G. Stewart | 0 |
| Lieut. B. V. Brooke, R.N. | 0 | Mr. A. S. Anton | 0 |
| Lt. A. S. McKenzie-Grieve, R.N. | 4 | Mr. C. W. May | 0 |
| Com. W. H. Taylor, R.N. | 0 | Mr. O. M. G. Burnie | 1 |
| Major W. H. Luke, R.M.L.I. | 6 | Mr. P. de C. Morris | 0 |
| Capt. Sir E. Chichester, R.N. | 0 | Mr. C. A. Tomes | 8 |
| Com. Donner, R.N. | 2 | Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins | 0 |
| Mr. D. Hay, R.N. | 0 | Mr. E. A. Ram | 9 |
| Capt. Saumarez, R.M.L.I. | 0 | Mr. E. F. Mackay | 2 |
| Lieut. Brumby, U.S.N. | 0 | Mr. H. L. Dalrymple | 27 |

16

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—"It is reported that 200 men of the Hongkong Regiment will probably be with us for the winter, but it is not definitely settled yet, we believe." We fancy our Tientsin friends will not have the satisfaction of seeing such a substantial addition to their means of protection.

FOOTBALL.

THE SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION.

The following is the complete record in the six-a-side competition:—

| | Played | Won | Lost | Drawn | Goals for | Goals against | Pts. |
|------------|--------|-----|------|-------|-----------|---------------|------|
| Moberley | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 10 |
| Mackay | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 6 |
| Noble | 5 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 6 |
| Looker | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 9 | 4 |
| Lethbridge | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 7 | 2 |
| Davies | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 |

* One match declared void.

PRESENTATION TO THE WINNING TEAM.

On Saturday afternoon, at the Club mat-shed, Happy Valley, Dr. J. M. Atkinson (President of the Hongkong Football Club) presented the cup and scarf pins to the winning team in the six-a-side competition. The successful team was composed of Messrs. Moberley, F. H. Kew, H. C. B. Hancock, T. Yule, A. R. Lowe, and T. W. Hornby. Mr. F. Browne, the secretary, who has just returned from a trip to Japan, was present.

Dr. ATKINSON said he was very happy to present the cup and six scarf pins to the winning team in the six-a-side competition. The cup, which was held a year, was presented by Messrs. Looker and Slade, and the scarf pins had been generously given by Mr. Mackay. These six-a-side competitions, in addition to unearthing new blood, tended to get the members into training, more or less, before the actual work of the season commenced. He congratulated Mr. Moberley and the members of his team on their success. Not only had they won the cup by fair play, but they had not had even one goal scored against them, which showed how excellent their play was. (Applause.) He was sure they all regretted with him that his duties were calling Mr. Moberley away and that the Club would not be able to have his services this season. (Hear, hear.)

The cup and scarf pins were then presented, and the proceedings terminated with three cheers and a "tiger" for the winners.

THE CLUB V. THE KING'S OWN.

The Hongkong Football Club opened the season on Saturday afternoon with a match against the King's Own. A large amount of interest was aroused by the fixture. The regiment was especially well represented. Before play was begun the general opinion was that the soldiers would be the victors, but for the first ten minutes there was really nothing to choose between the two. Then the King's Own got hold and Lawrence scored for them their first goal, Welsh adding another five minutes afterwards. The Club then made a good attempt. A corner was secured but nothing resulted. Another shot by the Club having failed the soldiers got hold and Lawrence again put the ball through. At this point Looker rearranged his men somewhat. By half time Sullivan had scored the fifth goal for the Regiment. The second half was exceedingly one-sided. The club were almost invariably on the defensive. They protected their posts well, but their opponents managed to notch another point, for which Litchfield was responsible. Score:—

King's Own ... 6 goals

The Club ... nil

The following were the teams:—The Club:—G. Sexton, P. A. Cox, W. W. Howard, C. T. Kew, J. D. Danby, H. Hancock, E. F. Mackay, A. R. Lowe, H. W. Looker, H. S. Moberley, and G. D. Campbell. The King's Own:—Hollingworth, Bunting, Wilcox, Sullivan, Collins, Butler, Lawrence, Litchfield, Morton, Regan, and Welsh. Mr. W. D. Mayson was referee.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

FIRST CLUB RACE, 5TH NOVEMBER.

The first race of the season was sailed in winds variable in both strength and direction, being east at the start, north in Stonecutters' Bay, and east again in Kowloon Bay, with a strong south wind to finish with.

This race was interesting as being the first appearance in a Club race of the Bonito, the latest home design, and of some of last year's boats with their alterations.

The racing between the Bonito, Erica, Maid Marian, and Sybil was probably the best yet seen in Hongkong during the last six years, it

being any boat's race up to near the Channel Rocks, where a free slant of wind put the Sybil and Bonito round the rock with a good lead from Erica and the Maid, which rounded close together. The course was from the Police Pier, Kowloon, round North Fairway Buoy, Cosmopolitan Dock Buoy, Kowloon Rock and Channel Rocks, all to starboard; 12 miles.

The following are the details of the racing:—A good start was made with a light east wind and the boats drifted down to near the Empress with the flood tide, when the north wind caught the Maid Marian and Sybil some little time before the others, and carried the fleet down to the fairway buoy. The second class starting 15 minutes after the first had nearly overtaken them by the time they got the wind, and the buoy was rounded in the following order:—

| H. M. S. | H. M. S. |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Maid Marian 1 54 11 | Payne 1 59 20 |
| Sybil 1 54 55 | Dart 1 59 45 |
| Erica 1 55 55 | Chanticleer 2 0 0 |
| Meteor 1 56 32 | She 2 0 15 |
| Active 1 57 10 | Ladybird ... 2 0 30 |
| Bonito 1 57 10 | Princess 2 3 17 |
| Phoebe 1 57 30 | |

The wind increased on the beat up to Cosmopolitan Dock buoy, and the Erica and Bonito closed up on the leaders, and Chanticleer and Ladybird both passed Payne, and She fell behind. In the run down to Kowloon Point Erica ran into second place but in the beat up to Dock Points Sybil went ahead and led for the rest of the way. At Kowloon Rock the order was Sybil, Erica, Maid Marian, Bonito, all within two minutes; then Active, Phoebe, and Meteor fairly close together, and Dart, Ladybird, Chanticleer, Payne, Princess, and She at about two or three minute intervals. When close to Channel Rocks Bonito got a free puff, which put her in front of both Erica and Maid Marian and the times here were:—

| H. M. S. | H. M. S. |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Sybil 3 52 50 | Meteor... 3 57 30 |
| Bonito 3 53 20 | Dart..... 4 3 31 |
| Erica 3 54 30 | Ladybird 4 5 20 |
| Maid Marian 3 54 40 | Princess 4 7 20 |
| Active 3 56 58 | Payne... 4 10 40 |
| Phoebe 3 57 12 | She not timed |

After rounding the rocks the boats got into a strong south wind and went tearing down to the finishing line, but several changes occurred on the way. The Phoebe put back to pick up the crew of an open boat which had filled in the squall, but as she was hopelessly behind at the time, this did not affect the result of the race. The following are the order and times of crossing the line:—

| H. M. S. | H. M. S. |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Sybil 4 16 55 | Dart ... 4 27 50—1 |
| Erica 4 18 45 | Ladybird 4 28 15—2 |
| Maid Marian 4 18 49 | Princess 4 31 7—3 |
| Bonito ... 4 18 56 | She } not timed |
| Active ... 4 19 15 | Payne... } |
| Meteor 4 21 30 | |

As the ratings of the A class boats are not yet known, the places of the boats are doubtful.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

MR. HO TUNG'S DEFENCE OF HONG YU-WEI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—Just a few lines in reply to Ho Tung's traverse of my letter of the 21st ult. which appeared in the *China Mail* of the 27th. I have just returned from a trip up the coast.

One can see from this carefully worded defence of Hong Yau-wei that Ho Tung possesses the foresight and business acumen of the Englishman, and, to use a foreign expression, the astuteness of the wily Celestial. I do not blame him for belauding and defending his so called friend Hong Yau-wei. He has good reasons for doing so. Hong has been Ho Tung's confidant. They have been pulling strings—concession strings. Ho Tung has been dreaming of the "Fire Carriage," that "wonderful iron cylinder with a smoke spout to it which runs on two rails and pulls a lot of boxes behind it." The gold and silver mountains conjured up in his imagination before the coup d'état must have been intensely exhilarating! If Ho Tung did not

be friend Hong and his fugitive family in this instance, it would have been a case of base ingratitude.

Ho Tung should know that recommending Mr. Timothy Richards' works for the special study of Emperor Kwang Su is not acknowledging indebtedness for plagiarism, or anything near it.

Will Ho Tung be good enough to explain the true meaning and intent of Hong Yau-wei's "Council of Ten?" Can he honestly say that this was not a selfish party move? Were these ten Chinese scholars qualified to advise the young and enthusiastic but unfortunate Emperor? I say they led him to the brink of the precipice over which he fell. Contradict this who dare. What good can we expect from Chinese scholars? No matter how enlightened they are, they are positively unfit to shape the destinies of the Empire at this stage of its awakening. Let us take Japan for example. Who reformed and guided that fortunate and wonderful little country but those pioneers of progress who went abroad to study in Western countries? The same applies to the Chinese Empire. It is an unalterable law of progressive civilization. We have plenty of qualified and capable men in China and in Foreign countries, but the Government, sad to say, appears unwilling or unable to follow in Japan's footsteps by utilizing the services of these men.—Yours truly,

THE MODERN TRUTH FINDER.
Canton, 4th November, 1898.

"CONSISTENCY IS A JEWEL"

MR. HO TUNG ON HIS DEFENCE.

THE FAMOUS CANTON REFORMER, KANG YAU-WEI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—It is a thousand pities that such a momentous question now known the world over as that of the Kang Yau-wei Reform Movement, involving as it does the destiny of an Empire, should be allowed to degenerate into a personal attack. This is the conviction that has been forced upon me from a perusal of what purports to be a traverse by "The Modern Truth Finder" of my defence of Kang, published in the *Daily Press* of the 8th instant. The successful struggle, so long and so vigorously waged, for a British free press has resulted in the establishment of that most glorious institution with its fundamental principle, viz., the eschewing of personal matters in the discussion of public questions. This is one of the grandest traditions so happily maintained by the enlightened modern British Press. Understanding as I do the benefits underlying so liberal an institution it becomes all the more regretful that I have to trespass on the space of the local press with certain personal explanations against the insinuations of the anonymous "Truth Finder."

In the first place, the offensive sarcasm which the writer alluded to so boldly attributes to Kang Yau-wei in his letter of 21st October, 1898, is made so plainly one of his own shortcomings at his own expense that it may be well to remind him of the good old saying that "people with glass roofs should not throw stones."

There is no attempt on my part at belauding the efforts and qualities of a man whose consistent but unfortunately unsuccessful policy was only to render his country free from the yoke of a backward and unprogressive Government. My defence of Kang was called for when I saw the advocate of Reform, probably distasteful to many, slandered without just cause and only on presumptive evidence. There was no sinister motive on my part to take up the gauntlet in behalf of one for whose remarkable ability and indefatigable zeal for the cause of his country I have a sincere admiration.

The flimsy fabric which the "Truth Finder" has constructed his letter upon is never more evident than when he accuses me of venality, such as, in his own words, the "pulling of concession strings" in conjunction with Kang. I challenge the production of any evidence, documentary or otherwise, either from "Truth Finder" or any one else, that could lead me to suspect that there was any such collusion

between the Reformer and myself. There is absolutely no truth in the charge, and no one probably knows better than "Truth Finder" himself that he could not support such an attack, or else he would not have appeared in public print under an assumed name. The paragraph which appeared in the *China Mail* of Wednesday, the 2nd instant, sufficiently explains my relations with Kang. We will not presume that "Truth Finder" will go quite so far as to say that the responsible management of this creditable journal was also actuated by motives of pecuniary gain when the paragraph in question was penned in the editorial sanctum. The writer's character and intention being therefore above board, I have the support of an ostensibly independent journal to say that in befriending Kang and his family in their hour of need nothing but a purely honest motive prompted the action.

Thus much for the personal aspect of the question. Now to come to the charges against Kang. There has been a studious avoidance on the part of the "Truth Finder" to endeavour to uphold the various indictments he has drawn up. We are yet to be enlightened as to Kang having intentionally appropriated the writings of others and represented them as those of himself. I am quite aware that, in the recommendation of Mr. Timothy Richards' works there was no defence for plagiarism; but what I wished to make clear was that had Kang been influenced by vaingloriousness he could without difficulty have so rendered in an altered form the writing of Mr. Richards as to present them as his own, and so consistently perpetuated the offence of an habitual plagiarist which we have heard laid at his door.

As regards the "Council of Ten" which I am asked to explain, I will say in the first instance that I have not seen nor have my investigations brought to light any Imperial Edict nominating such a council. Nor, as far as my knowledge goes, has there been any published memorial recommending it. The names which have already appeared in the local newspapers of the persons supposed to compose this Council, were first published by the *Sinwenpao* (a Shanghai Chinese newspaper), while those given by the native correspondent of the *North China Herald* differ but slightly from the original list. Assuming that the Council did really exist and that its formation was recommended by Kang, I will say that it could not but have had its origin from an undoubtedly honest intention to provide what may be termed a cabinet of reliable officials with progressive views, "who were to have assembled daily in the Maohing Throne Hall to advise the Emperor on reform measures." If they were intended to supersede the Conservative party under whose regime China has never issued forth from its thralldom of a bygone age, I say that the formation of such a Council was amply justifiable. I will go further to say that under the old regime China has the indebtedness of the terrible defeat in the recent Japan war with all its concomitant evils. Her humiliation has been such as to deeply impress upon the pages of her history a very dark blot requiring years of well-directed efforts and energy to erase. China owes further to the old party the so-called "cession" of its boasted stronghold in Port Arthur. China has to thank the same party also for the "lease" of Kiaochau and for the "temporary occupation" of Kwongchowwan. Had it not been for the fact that the timely and I should say providential interposition of European international jealousy, China's debt to the Conservative party would be complete by our witnessing long ere this the entire absorption of that portion of the Flowery Land worth possessing under the designation of a 99 year leasehold, or another way of expressing the modern diplomatic term for "land grabbing."

"Truth Finder" doubts the qualification of the "Council of Ten" for the performance of the task it was intended to impose upon them. This is purely a matter of opinion, and as such admits of no reasonable discussion. At any rate, it is safe to say that they were not allowed a practical test before the hand of jealousy cut short their blossoming career. And it is also safe to say that no more grave blunders could have been perpetrated than those which permitted the consummation of the realities enumerated above. On the authority of the generally well-informed *North China Herald* I

will quote what is said in the issue that paper of the 31st October:—"There is not one of these proposed reforms that is not both practicable and salutary and that would not have been for the benefit of the people. They were only dangerous to the ignorant and greedy Manchus and the equally ignorant and corrupt old Chinese officials to whom the collapse of China is due; and there is not one of them as far as they are published that is not full of advantage to the State. There is no foundation for the excuses made for the usurping Empress Dowager and that as far as the facts show the charges made against the Emperor and his friends are baseless!"

"Truth Finder" unconsciously let himself into an admission of the fact that the Empire of China has now arrived at a stage of its awakening. What has thus far been accomplished is largely due to the influence exercised by Kang Yau-wei and his few patriotic colleagues previously to the Emperor's dethronement. Every action since then has been but the thin end of the wedge to set back the forward movement of reform.

Much as one would feel inclined to give the "Truth Finder" the credit for originality one cannot help arriving at the conclusion that the idea of the utilization of Chinese trained abroad is borrowed from the scheme of the Chinese Education Commission of 1872, proposed and carried into effect by Yung Wing. As it will be remembered, I emphasized the fact that Kang was in favour of the employment of the Westernized Chinese, and if the latter had failed to attain the posts of greater distinction, the Conservative party—whose cause is virtually espoused by "Truth Finder"—is alone to blame. I am inclined to bring this letter to a close by a quotation from Dr. Williams in his "Middle Kingdom." I find the following hopeful and pertinent remark with regard to the subject under discussion. In giving the words of that eminent sinologue I feel constrained to render thanks for the valuable hints—as the result of life-long and patient study—afforded in a matter which at the present time is exercising the minds of intelligent men through the length and breadth of the Chinese Empire:—"The great fact must have become apparent, even to the cursory reader, that in the Chinese character are elements which in due time must lift her out of the terribly backward position into which she has fallen, and raise her to a rank among the foremost of nations." There is a basis of encouragement when we keep in mind the literary institutions of the country and their early attention to obtaining a corps of scientific men of their own nationality.—Yours faithfully,

HO TUNG.

Hongkong, 9th November, 1898.

MR. HO TUNG AND KANG YU-WEI. TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—As one who has given much and deep attention to the matter of political and social reform in China, I request that you will kindly insert the following lines in reference to certain letters that have appeared recently in the local papers. Some time ago, there appeared some letters signed "Modern Truth Finder," and following these came several from our respected citizen Mr. Ho Tung. "Modern Truth Finder" in his letters has made many false assumptions, and in his last laid charges as the door of one "the latchet of whose shoes he was not fit to fasten." The recent action of Mr. Ho Tung must commend itself to all who have the truest and best interest of China at heart. There is a growing feeling in the younger and educated portion of our race that China shall one day be lifted from the stagnant condition into which she has sunk by so many years of misrule, corruption, and treachery. It is with pleasure we hail the efforts of a gentleman like Mr. Ho Tung in seeking to repair this lamentable state of affairs, and I am sure that I am only echoing the views of many of my compatriots in saying that we agree with him in all his plain, honest, and outspoken sentiments as regards the reform in the great Empire of China.

Allow me here to say that the imputations made against Mr. Ho Tung by "Modern Truth Finder" as regards his seeking advancement and emolument are, as most of us know, utterly uncalled for and not in the least creditable to

the gentleman who poses as the modern Diogenes. If "Modern Truth Finder" has the interest of his country at heart so warmly, it is rather strange to many of us, in Hongkong, that he should be found so strongly contesting the efforts of one who is doing his best to bring the Chinese nation to its proper level in the scale of nations. Mr. Ho Tung, who commands honour and respect amongst all who come in contact with him, and in most Chinese centres, was only actuated by the kindest and noblest of aspirations in his treatment of Kang Yu-wei and his family, and for this can he be held to blame by any? What he has done has proved him one who thinks no sacrifice too great when the cause of humanity needs a helping hand. May he have long life to further his good work, and may more of his kind be with us always, to perpetuate the brotherhood of mankind. Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of the above.—I am, sir, yours truly,

CLAUDE LEY KUM.

Hongkong, 10th November, 1898.

THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS INSTITUTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—The Committee of the Soldiers and Sailors Institute have empowered us to ask assistance through your columns in defraying the cost of moving in December to their new quarters in Duddell Street. Hitherto they have been hiring rooms in that part of Queen's Road which has been bought by the Admiralty. This Institute was started by private individuals on the basis of "self help and self support," with the objects of providing Christian influences and affording means of recreation and amusement for the two branches of Her Majesty's Service. The Committee is composed of the resident Chaplains (ex officio) together with three representatives elected from the Army, and three from the Navy. During the whole ten years of its existence the Institute has never made any appeal to the public for funds; but inasmuch as the occasion is extraordinary, and the expenses connected therewith very heavy, the Committee feel confident that the community of Hongkong will be glad to shew their sympathy with the work. It is hoped, moreover, that a sufficient sum will be raised to allow the purchase of some new furniture and fittings, which are greatly needed to render the rooms more attractive and comfortable. The Chairman will be glad to receive donations sent to him at the "Vestry, S. John's Cathedral," and, by the courtesy of the editors, these will be acknowledged in the daily papers.—We have, sir, the honour to be, your obedient servants,

GEORGE R. VALLINGS,

Chaplain to the Garrison, Ch. of E., and Chairman and Treasurer S. & S. Institute.

ED. RICHARDS,

Secretary S. & S. Institute.

Hongkong, 10th November, 1898.

STREET ROW OR RIOT?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—“Volunteer” remarks that Mr. Smith contradicted himself by asserting that the recent trouble here was a mere street row and then admitting that it was necessary to call out the officials to quiet the disturbance. But the plain truth is that they were more alarmed at the action taken by the foreigners than anything else. One excited individual, I hear, was with difficulty prevented from firing upon the people, so ardent was his zeal, and more than one individual seemed to have made up his mind for a fight. Such an insane proceeding would undoubtedly have caused serious consequences, and the officials are to be highly commended for the prompt way in which they acted, as of course even a “street row” may lead to a “riot.”—I am, &c.

ANOTHER EYE-WITNESS.

Canton, 4th November.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I have read “Another Eye-witness's” letter. He goes for “A Volunteer,” trying to pass off the subject as a joke in a bantering tone. This is hardly any argument or controverting of the facts as stated by “An Impartial

Eye-witness” in your issue of 1st inst. It is very wise of him not to have vouched for the accuracy of the statement that the police started by first throwing stones at the people, for I was the first to turn up, before it commenced in right earnest, and saw no policeman then, but heard threats of “Burn Shameen and kill foreign devils,” and after some minutes stones commenced to pour like hail and matters looked very serious for some time. This is a plain fact and I can vouch for its

ACCURACY.

Canton, 4th November, 1898.

THE INDIAN CURRENCY COMMISSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—It is a matter of deep regret that the Indian merchants in Hongkong and Shanghai, handling a voluminous trade in imports from Bombay and Calcutta, have up till now not done anything to enlighten the said Commission holding its sittings in England. They should leave no stone unturned to ventilate their views at the present juncture. Whatever their views may be on this subject of supreme importance they should be freely and fairly threshed out and laid before the Commission without reservation. Now is the time, and if the opportunity is allowed to slip by they will have to blame themselves for their backwardness. It is beyond the scope of this brief communication to dwell at length on the injury to their trade. A public meeting of the merchants interested will be a step in the right direction. Do not allow silver to be kicked still further. Awake, arise, or be for ever fallen!

The proposal of Sir Adam Forbes, a veteran merchant of India, to establish a ratio of 22 to 1, with the Indian mints thrown open, with some modifications, is likely to be the best course to be adopted under the present circumstances. The Wolcott ratio of 15 to 1 is too visionary to be at all entertained. I, for my part, would suggest the ratio of 25 to 1.

Apropos of this subject, the following brief letter has been contributed by H. E. Dolphin (Lieut. Colonel) to the *Financial News*, which I take the liberty of reproducing verbatim for further elucidation.

C. M. P.

Hongkong, 9th November, 1898.

(Enclosure.)

THE INDIAN STANDARD MEASURE OF VALUE.

To the Editor of *The Financial News*.

SIR,—To have a gold standard without a gold currency seems to me as absurd as it would be for a shopkeeper to keep scales without weights. A gold currency is admitted to be both unsuitable and unattainable in India. A silver currency has been used there for ages, is used there now, and will be used there for our time, at least. The rupee is the standard measure of value, and her revenue is and must be mainly collected in rupees; but, unfortunately, her annual obligations in England, amounting to £17,000,000 sterling, have to be defrayed in gold. It is therefore all-important to India that a link should connect the white and yellow metals. The only satisfactory union is the one proposed last year by the Wolcott Commissioners. The condition was that India should reopen her mints to the free coinage of silver, as promised by our Government. The Indian Government says, in its despatch of March 24, that this cannot be entertained. Let us hope that the new Governor-General, primed with some Kitchener starch, will think and act otherwise, and stop all this playing with finance.—I am, yours faithfully,

H. E. DOLPHIN (Lieut.-Colonel).

Guildford, September 29.

THE IMMINENT WAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—It seems to me that the military authorities would be wise to establish a suspension tramway to connect the heights of Kowloon with the low level, for they could thus promptly send men, machine guns, and ammunition into position to resist invasion from the direction of Mirs Bay. If it is not possible to get the plant out from home at once they might be able to make arrangements to take over that of the private line now operating in the colony and

return it with a new plant from home, later. Nothing should be left to chance but the preparations for defence should be so perfect as to let the other side think it wiser to leave the colony alone.

RESIDENT.

Hongkong, 6th November, 1898.

THE HANKOW-CANTON RAILWAY.

Mr. Bash, representing an influential American syndicate, has returned to China and is at present staying in Shanghai with Mrs. Bash, Miss Bash, and children. Mr. Bash was fortunate enough to secure a contract for the building of a railway from Hankow to Canton, the distance of the road being reckoned at 800 miles. The contract was signed by Mr. Bash, on behalf of his syndicate, and Sheng Tsjen, director of railways and a representative of the Imperial Government. Mr. Bash after his well-earned success returned to the States and has come back with two other gentlemen connected with his syndicate. He awaits the arrival of Mr. Parsons, an eminent engineer of New York, who is a passenger by the steamer *China*, when the party will leave for Hankow to commence the survey of the proposed railroad.—*Mercury*.

ANOTHER ATTACK ON NATIVE CHRISTIANS.

A Wuchang despatch received at Shanghai on the 4th November states that Viceroy Chang has received a petition from the district magistrate of Lichuanhsien, Ichang prefecture, province of Hupeh, reporting a riot against Christians in a market town within that magistrate's jurisdiction, resulting in the killing of four Christians and the burning of their chapel in that town. As the magistrate had no military force at his command to enable him to arrest the rioters, whose leaders are said to be known, an appeal is made to the Viceroy for aid. In consequence of this serious news Viceroy Chang at once telegraphed to General Fu, in command of the Ichang Circuit, and ordered him to go in person to Lichuanhsien to arrest the ringleaders of the mob.—*N. C. Daily News*.

THE MOBBING OF FOREIGNERS AT PEKING.

AN ACCOUNT BY ONE OF THE LADIES.

Miss Laura Cranston, writing to a friend at Seoul, gives the following account of the attack made upon herself and others recently, at Peking. The letter was communicated to the *Seoul Independent* for publication:—

Here we are in Peking at last, but such a welcome the Chinese gave us! Father came up last Tuesday, to see if there was much excitement about the Emperor. But he wrote and told us to come when we wished. So, yesterday at eleven we started. They put us in the train at Tientsin and we came up alone. Dr. Lowry and his daughter met us, and put mother and Ethel in sedan chairs, and Mabel Lowry and I crowded into a Peking cart, and Ruth and Mr. Lowry in another. So we started off for a five-mile ride, Mr. Lowry cautioning us about the crowds and said that the coolies were perfectly reliable. We entered the city gate and went round the wall of the temple of Heaven. Some distance off to the left, on the wide stone street, was a great crowd yelling. It was a feast day, so the people were hilarious. The chairs were ahead, then our cart, then Dr. Lowry's. As we were rounding the temple, the crowd commenced to run toward us shouting. When they were close enough, they commenced throwing mud and stones at the chairs. These were promptly set down by the coolies, and the mob had everything its own way. Mother had a chair with padded curtains at the windows, and a curtain door, but Ethel had nothing, and oh! how quickly the glass was broken. I told Mabel to tell the carter to drive up between the chairs and the crowd, knowing that in the cart we could stand more than the chairs. But we couldn't entirely surround the chair, and mother was still exposed. However, that didn't make much difference, for they commenced throwing at us, and a stone hit the mule, and off he galloped as hard as he could go. I never realized before how fast a mule

could go until I found that we were going farther away all the time and leaving Mother and Ethel at the mercy of that crowd. Our carter had disappeared when we stopped by the chairs, and no one volunteered to stop our fiery steed. Mabel climbed out on the shafts, got the reins and stopped the horse. In another minute the carter came, as scared as he could be, whipped up the mule, and away we went as fast as we could in a Peking cart. I didn't want to leave Mother and Ethel a bit, but I thought that it would be better to get word to the compound. The mule was young and frightened and got along pretty fast. I never was so jolted in all my life. But that didn't matter so much. As we were going along, I thought I heard some one calling Laura and sure enough it was Ruth in the other cart. Dr. Lowry had jumped out and stayed with Mother and Ethel, and sent Ruth on. She was nearly scared out of her senses and was screaming at the top of her voice. One of the chair coolies came up, on a dead taer, and, jumping on Ruth's cart, gave orders to drive ahead, as fast as possible. And we did not know whether the mob was following or not. Oh, how endless that ride seemed. Down this way and that, going so fast over those terrible stone streets, waiting at the beginning of some narrow alley, till we could get room to go through. When at last we stopped at the gate and I saw Father, oh what a relief it was! I managed to kiss Father and told him that Mother and Ethel were on their way, then turned to speak to Mrs. Lowry, and as I thought of Mother and Ethel back there in the crowd, with Dr. Lowry fighting alone, the "tears came to my eyes. . . . The American Minister and his wife happened to be calling in the compound, and Father rather summarily interrupted him, saying, Major Conger my wife and daughter are being mobbed near the temple of Heaven." They immediately went back to the Legation, and in almost less time than it takes to tell all the men in the compound were off, with clubs, guns, and pistols. They wouldn't let Father go, because he could not speak the language and wouldn't be any help so we were walking up and down the street. Young Dr. Lowry, sick abed with malaria, jumped up and went off with his gun. In about ten minutes we saw a chair coming and my heart stood nearly still.

We were afraid it was empty and they would tell us that Mother was way back by the road side injured, or dead. But we soon saw her looking out of the window, and she said she was all right, and Ethel and Dr. Lowry were coming. And when they all came, and got out of their chairs, I think we all felt that we had never been so happy and thankful as we were at that moment. But Dr. Lowry was hurt. He had two wounds on his face and a rib broken. In talking it over, it came out that going to the station he and Mabel had had a similar experience, and it was then he was hit. Of course they said nothing to us about it. Mother and Ethel never lost their wits once. They put on their hats when the men dined at the top of the chairs, and Ethel held up her jacket on the side to protect her from the mud and glass, and the kodak in front, to keep off the mud that came in that way. She says that several times she thought she had breathed her last. Once, a man picked up what seemed an immense stone and aimed it at her face, but it hit some part of the chair and landed at her feet. Another threw an immense one, on the roof, but nothing came of it. They think that it was mostly concrete from the wall of the temple, and mud that was thrown. You could never have told that anything had happened except by the chairs, and Mother's face, which showed that she had been under a great strain.

Things here are in a very unsettled and dangerous state. Any day we women folk may be sent off to Tientsin, to take the next steamer for Shanghai.

At the Yokohama Races on the 28th October a little boy, Avil Hornstein, son of the proprietor of the Globe and International Hotels, was kicked on the back of the head by a pony, which was just being led out of the enclosure by a betto. The injury rendered him unconscious and in this condition he was taken to the General Hospital. His recovery was considered doubtful.

MORE EXECUTIONS AT PEKING.

It appears from late dispatches received from Peking that the Empress Dowager is still unsatisfied with the amount of blood shed by her since the coup over a month ago, and that executions "of a private nature" have been going on at the rate of an average of two a week. The majority of the victims of her bloodthirsty vengeance have been eunuchs, palace slave girls and ladies-in-waiting, all such as had at one time or other been looked upon with favour by their Imperial Master. With the exception of fourteen palace menials and four ladies-in-waiting whose active devotion to the Emperor naturally marked them out for instant denunciation to the Empress Dowager by their envious fellow-menials, followed by summary death at the hands of the eunuch executioners belonging to the Shenghsingze or Palace Department of Control and Punishment, the other victims of the Empress Dowager's bloodthirsty vengeance were executed, after a short mock-trial, in the order of their denunciations inside the palace precincts. Never was mercy granted in a single instance and private envy and malice have naturally played a large part during the reign of terror. The last execution, however, was an open one "for the benefit of the public." The victim was a "runaway" junior eunuch whose chief or head eunuch had been one of the first to fall under the Empress Dowager's vengeance. Palace eunuchs, be it known, are divided into divisions of a dozen or twenty, each under a chief or head eunuch. This "runaway" eunuch, it seemed—so the story goes—wished to avenge his chief's death, and early one morning about a fortnight ago was arrested at the palace gate by the guards, and on being searched a long knife was found secreted on his person. As it had been given out that Kang and his Reform Party had been guilty of trying to assassinate the Emperor, the opportunity was not to be lost, and so the captive being sent to the Board of Punishments for trial was, of course, found guilty and then publicly strangled in the chief market place of Peking. According to the captive's own assertion, he had been sent to one of the Imperial farms, outside Peking, over which his chief had control, to collect the usual autumn tithes, in proof of which he had the tithes' book on his person, together with silver and Peking bank drafts amounting to over Tls. 1,500, and that the knife was a weapon of defence while travelling to and from Peking. Naturally the silver and drafts with the tithes' book had been seized upon by the palace guards, as legal "loot" when the man was searched, and only the damaging knife produced to the officer commanding the guards. The public therefore had a "convincing" proof that a fellow conspirator of Kang Yu-wei had been caught, which, however, only a few have believed.—N. C. Daily News.

COLLISION IN THE INLAND SEA. GREAT LOSS OF LIFE REPORTED.

Kobe, 26th October.
The N.Y.K. steamer *Satsuma-maru* brings news of a terrible disaster in the Inland Sea, last night about half-past eight. A collision occurred between the N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshiu-maru* and the O.S.K. steamer *Miyagawa-maru* about 80 miles down the Inland Sea, off Tadotsu. The *Miyagawa-maru* is a small coasting steamer and appears to have had on board upwards of 200 passengers. The *Kinshiu* which was in charge of a pilot (Mr. Kaya) at the time, is stated to have crashed into the smaller steamer with great force, doing such damage that she sank in three minutes. It says much for the efforts of the crews on both vessels that 130 persons were saved, but the number of drowned is believed to be no less than 60. Several of the rescued passengers are stated to be severely injured.

The *Kinshiu-maru* is reported to have sustained considerable damage, obliging her to anchor.

It is only a few weeks since the *Kinshiu* came out of the shipwrights' hands at Seattle where she had been damaged in collision.

The *Miyagawa-maru* was on the way to Kobe from Bakan.

Kobe, 27th October.

Fuller details respecting the terrible collision in the Inland Sea on Monday evening between the N.Y.K. steamer *Kinshiu-maru* and the O.S.K. steamer *Miyagawa-maru*, show that the disaster occurred at 6.30 p.m., but no information is available as to the cause of the collision. The O.S.K. steamer was making for Tadotsu at the time. She had on board about 160 persons including 34 members of the crew. Most of the passengers were in the steerage and these included about 60 bluejackets from Kure. There were three or four first-class passengers and seven or eight in the second class, and all these were saved with the exception of an old man of sixty. All the members of the crew appear to have been saved, including the captain, and 89 of the passengers. These are figures furnished by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha Agents, and the deduction therefrom is that the loss of life is rather under 40 than over, though the vernacular press places the loss at 50. The *Kinshiu*, it appears, struck the *Miyagawa* on the starboard side near the bow, and she rapidly filled and sank. Her masts now show about five feet above the water. Boats were at once lowered by the *Kinshiu* and as many persons as possible were picked up. Several were injured in the collision—some very badly. Seven or eight of the bluejackets are reported to be amongst the drowned.

The bow of the *Kinshiu-maru* was damaged but she was not making water when the *Satsuma-maru* communicated with her about eleven o'clock the same evening.

Mr. Inouye, the sub-Manager of the local office of the N.Y.K., left yesterday by the *Hiogo-maru* for the scene of the disaster, and the managing director of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha also proceeded to the spot, taking divers and salvage apparatus with him.—*Hiogo News*.

YU MAN-TZE BOUGHT OFF.

Chungking, 29th October.

The Acting-Viceroy Wen has received by courier on the 27th instant a letter from General Chou, commanding the troops opposed to Yu Man-tze, stating that he has received a petition from that rebel asking for peace with the Government and promising to release the Roman Catholic priest Fleury. The Acting Viceroy has given his consent to a peace and has ordered a "reward" or *solatium* to Yu Man-tze in the shape of a commission carrying a brevet button with it. This was sent on the same day to General Chou to prove the *bona fides* of the Acting-Viceroy's intentions towards the rebels in order to obtain the persons of the R.C. priests Fleury and Huang held by them. The followers of Yu are soon to be enlisted in the local battalions while others are to be paid their expenses to their homes. Peace is therefore within reasonable distance of accomplishment and in consequence alarmist rumours are already dying out. Shanghai, Shasi, and Hankow bankers and merchants having trade connections with Chungking are advised to take advantage of the present opportunity coupled with the favourable condition of the river and hurry on their winter shipments so as to avoid loss in delay.—

Chungking, 5th November.

The "gift" of the high provincial authorities at Chengtu to Yu Man-tze as the reward for his return to the allegiance to the Manchu dynasty was sent him yesterday. It is in the shape of an opaque blue button official hat, with peacock feathers, and a commission as Second Captain in the Chinese army. In consideration of the above Yu Man-tze will hand over Père Fleury to-day to the authorities.—N. C. Daily News special telegrams.

The *China Gazette* of the 5th November says:—The once well-known crack P. & O. line *Hydaspes*, which was sold recently to Chinese, was to-day towed from the lower reach of the river up to her last resting place at Tungkadoo Dock, where she will be broken up and sold for old iron. She had practically no steering power, her rudder being useless, and it was a task of some hazard to move her up through the crowded shipping, but it was safely accomplished by Pilot Carmichael with the aid of the two tugs *Fuhlee* and *Samson*.

THE JAPANESE PRESS ON THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

In its "Spirit of the Vernacular Press" the *Japan Mail* of the 24th October says:—

We need scarcely say that Chinese affairs were largely discussed by the press during the week. One of the most singular views expressed was put forward by the *Jiji Shimpō*. It alleged that China's present condition is analogous to that of Japan in feudal times, the power of the central government being insignificant, whereas the localities are virtually autonomous. It is, therefore, almost useless for a foreign representative to prefer demands in Peking. Even though they receive the approval of the authorities in the capital, there is no competence to make them effective throughout the empire. The best plan would be to accredit to each of the local governments officials of a partly consular and partly diplomatic character, so that all questions might be settled at the place where they occurred. Passing on to the general problem of Japan's wisest attitude in the presence of the perils that threaten China, we find that the Tokyo journals are almost unanimous in advocating a policy of resolute interference for the preservation of the neighbouring empire's integrity and independence. Few seem to doubt that elements of strength exist in China and that they only need development. The *Hochi Shimbun* may be classed among the doubters. It believes that China's fate is sealed, and that the factors making for her dismemberment began to be active fifty years ago, though two decades passed before Japan took any notice of them. Therefore the *Hochi Shimbun* advocates interference in Japan's interests, and wants to know what uses are to be served by her fleet of two hundred thousand tons and her army of five hundred thousand men if they are not employed at this juncture. The *Kokumin* complains of the vacillating policy pursued by the Cabinet, and says that when the facts are carefully examined, nothing appears to have been done except to submit a tentative kind of protest in Peking and to exult over the fact that it apparently produced some effect. Courteous and gentle advice is useless in China. It is like blowing away a fly from a rice cup. Japan must step forward boldly, join hands with the Powers that have identical interests in Eastern Asia, and lead China resolutely into the path of progress. Needless to say that the *Kokumin* finds in all this an opportunity for attacking the Government. Having set forth what ought to be done, it asks how there can be any hope that a Cabinet like the present Ministry will do it.

One journal stands conspicuously apart from all its contemporaries. It is the newly born *Jimmin*, successor to the *Tokyo Shimbun* generally regarded as an organ of Mr. Hoshi Toru and the Kwanto Liberals. The *Jimmin's* regret is, not that the dismemberment of China threatens to take place soon, but that it has been so long postponed. For it is inevitable. The only thing to save her is regeneration and what hope can there be that a young Emperor and a solitary enthusiast, the only two really earnest reformers in the country, can bring about the regeneration of a huge nation petrified in bigotry and conservatism? No, dismemberment must come. It will not be averted by the apprehensions it inspires. China offers to the world every conceivable spectacle of semi-barbarism. The sooner she is civilized the better, and her civilization can be effected only by her partition. It is, therefore, in the interests of the world's economy and of humanity that she should be dismembered with all speed. Eastward the star of civilization takes its way.

Precisely the opposite of the above is an article published on the same day by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. It is headed "More and more hope of China's reform." Russia, says the writer, is tired and wants rest. She will not lay hands upon China. And if Russia abstains, England also will stand aloof. As for the other Powers, their action depends on the attitude of England and Russia. Therefore we may conclude that China will have a breathing space to set her house in order. Now the Empress Dowager is a consummately clever woman and by no means an enemy of reform. She appreciates its necessity. Further, Jung Lu, the most influential subject in the empire,

is far from being a bigoted conservative. The part these two have taken in checking the movement of progress was forced upon them by the injudicious precipitance of the leading progressists. Finally, the great Viceroy Chang and most of the prominent men in the south are advocates of reform. The outlook is full of hope and Japan's proper policy is plain. She must devote herself to encouraging and assisting the reformers.

MANUFACTURE OF CHEMICALS IN JAPAN.

Of the various sciences which have been introduced into Japan from Europe and America medical science, says the *Jiji*, has made the most considerable progress. Yet in spite of the fact that the science has developed so much it is to be wondered at that very little improvement has been made in the manufacture of drugs and medicines, most of which are still imported from abroad. Medicines and drugs to the value of yen 2,071,115 were imported in 1892; yen 2,791,153 in 1893; yen 3,110,998 in 1894; yen 4,168,847 in 1895; and yen 3,810,714 in 1896. The above figures show that the imports of drugs and medicines are yearly increasing. Indeed, it is strange that no attention is paid to this matter by the people concerned. There are some pharmaceutical institutions in Japan, but owing to a scarcity of experts and of raw material no satisfactory result has been arrived at. As to the manufacture of chemicals for industrial purposes such as sulphuric acid, caustic soda, and bleaching powder, favourable progress has been made. The annual demand for sulphuric acid in Japan is estimated at 125,193,600 lbs. (P), for bleaching powder at 5,068,000 lbs., and for caustic soda at 13,333,333 lbs. Sulphur is found abundantly in Japan and as a consequence, the manufacture of sulphuric acid is annually increasing. There are eighteen sulphuric acid manufactories in the country and their output is not only sufficient to meet all domestic demands but to permit of an export trade to foreign countries. The following are the latest statistics of the export of the acid to foreign countries during the past six years:—

| | Value. Yen. | Quantity. Catties. |
|------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1892 | 42,894 | 1,060,810 |
| 1893 | 44,942 | 1,489,727 |
| 1894 | 38,480 | 1,036,538 |
| 1895 | 75,277 | 1,109,766 |
| 1896 | 36,224 | 1,040,788 |
| 1897 | 46,991 | 1,352,099 |

Bleaching powder is made in Japan in sufficient quantities to meet domestic demands (the raw material for manufacturing which is found in the interior) though not to be exported. The manufacture of caustic soda is still in its infancy, the output filling only one-third of the demand in the interior and the rest being supplied by the imported article. Imports of caustic soda during the past six years were, according to last trustworthy statistics, as follows:—

| | Quantity. Catties. | Value. Yen. |
|------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1892 | 4,797,150 | 173,010 |
| 1893 | 5,055,889 | 192,426 |
| 1894 | 4,622,642 | 205,467 |
| 1895 | 5,355,175 | 234,000 |
| 1896 | 2,374,118 | 84,263 |
| 1897 | 6,656,185 | 229,593 |

The sudden increase in the import of caustic soda in 1897 is due to the fact that the Osaka Alkali Company, who were supplying a large portion of the domestic demand, stopped the manufacture of the soda owing to the rise in the prices of commodities and inability to compete with the imported article.—*Japan Gazette*.

The *Singapore Free Press* says:—It is understood that the German mercantile communities throughout the Far East are jubilant at the idea that in the event of war the entire carrying trade may drop into their hands. We should think that the command of the sea would be settled inside of a week and that in any case British shipowners and shippers will be ready enough to take the risks. We can quite understand vessels flying the French flag lying up in case of hostilities. But the function of our navy is to keep the seas clear for our mercantile marine all through a war.

A FRENCH CONSUL ON REUTER'S TELEGRAMS AND THE RECENT CRISIS.

The following letter from the French Consul at Singapore appears in the *Straits Times*:—
Sir,—The s.s. *Natal* left Saigon on Wednesday, the 26th October, at 9 a.m. Before sailing, the people on board had got the information, from the Havas cablegrams, that General Chanoine, Minister of War, resigned his portfolio from the tribune, creating great sensation, and that the Brisson Ministry, having been defeated, had resigned. Another telegram (Havas), of the 25th, had been published in Saigon intimating that both the English and French Governments had officially denied that military and naval armaments were in active preparation, and that both Governments were in perfect understanding.

Now, explain to me, if you please, and if you can:—

(1).—How the news of the resignation of the French Cabinet, known in Saigon, by Havas, on the 26th at 9 a.m., was published here, in Singapore, from Reuter, only on the 27th in the afternoon.

(2).—Why the Reuter agency has not cabled the official denial, made by both Governments, of strained relations between them? When the people at Singapore were, on the 26th, in such a state of excitement and apprehension, (I mean the people of reason and good sense, who love peace), Saigon was perfectly quiet and reassured.

I will not make, here, further allusion to the calculations which alone can explain such extraordinary discrepancies between the cablegraphic information from one and the other sources. [Reuter's London house is in direct telephonic communication with the office in the French Chamber of Deputies, and would get the news as speedily as it would be known in Paris.—Ed.]

I take this opportunity to warn my fellow-countrymen residing here not to place full confidence, in the future, in the cablegrams of a humbugging association.—I have the honour to be, sir, yours &c., &c.,

COMTE D'ABBANS,

Consul de France.

Consulat de France, à Singapore, 29th Oct., 1898.

THE DEFENCE OF CAPE ST. JAMES.

The *Singapore Free Press* makes the following translation from a French contemporary:—

The defence works at Cape St. James, recently pushed on with rapidity, are to-day almost completed, and the new batteries will be in a condition to fire in a few days, thus assuring a shelter for our ships at the entrance of the Saigon river. Thanks to convict labour, the military roads giving access to three batteries have been constructed in a very short time at a moderate expense.

The utility of artillery defences at Cape St. James has often been denied, on the ground that, the Saigon river being very difficult to ascend without a pilot, its defence would be an easy matter with the help of a few torpedo-boats. This argument is sound enough, but the defences at Cape St. James have above all for their object the assuring to our squadron of the Far East a safe shelter and the free access to the river. Saigon is, indeed, the sole point in the China seas where we possess an arsenal where ships can be repaired.

In case of war,—whether it be with a European nation, or with China, Japan, or Siam—the hostile fleet might block the entrance of the river to our ships, which would thus find themselves unable to get fresh supplies or to effect repairs. Thanks, however, to the batteries which now exist, the enemy's vessels could no longer remain in sight of the Cape, and the entrance to the Saigon river is assured to us, which is an important matter.

Over and above these new defence works, a substantial garrison is about to be stationed at Cape St. James. One thousand men, belonging to the artillery and infantry of marine, are going into barracks there. The plans of these buildings are actually under preparation.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 27th October.

The instability of the situation in and about Peking was illustrated on Saturday last by an incident at Lunikochiao, or Polo's Bridge, on the Lu-Han Railway. Serious as the consequences already are, affairs were within an ace of ending in the massacre of six Europeans. The circumstances were substantially as follows:—Mr. Cox, the able district engineer on whose section the great iron bridge is being erected over the Hun-Ho, has had to complain of the constant interference of the military loafers and hangers-on who get in the way of his workmen. There are in the neighbourhood of the bridge two camps; for some time they have been in the successive possession of typical Chinese troops, wild fellows who have been up in Kansuh suppressing the Mahomedan rebels after the manner so well known and approved in oriental warfare. Mr. Cox made representations through the proper authorities to the Ying-Kwans, or colonels; by one, his protests were received in a proper manner, and the men were duly cautioned to avoid the bridge; the other officer was obtrusive in his refusal to interfere, said it was no business of his to see to his men off duty, and made it pretty clear that he was not at all solicitous to protect foreigners. On Saturday, when Mr. Cox was on the bridge accompanied by Mr. Norregard, the resident engineer, and by Mr. Campbell of the Legation and Captain Radcliffe of the Burmah army, a soldier was ordered off the bridge; on refusing to go he was run off; instantly he called to a squad of 30 or 35 loafers, who, seizing the ballast stones, made a determined assault on the little party. Messrs. Campbell and Norregard were cut very severely on the face by stones thrown, but Mr. Cox was mobbed, hustled, knocked down, and freely bashed over the head with heavy stones held in the hands. Seeing that things were now very serious and his leader in actual danger of his life, Mr. Norregard pulled out a small revolver and fired two shots over their heads.

This caused an instant stampede towards the camps about 450 yards distant. Guessing what would follow, the foreigners ran to Mr. Norregard's house, which was happily 200 yards on the near side of the camp, got his wife and child out instantly, and in less than four minutes regained the bridge, jumped on to a trolley, and made for Feng Tai at a speed of 10 miles an hour. They were just in time. The infuriated soldiers had been for their rifles and ball cartridges; they were back in seven minutes and seeing a man in foreign clothes they at once riddled him with bullets and shot him dead. He was then discovered to be a native painter who had tied up his queue under a billycock hat and had foreign-made trousers on.

Mr. Campbell's presence at the fracas enabled Sir Claude to get a prompt and clear account of the whole affair. He at once took measures to secure an urgent protest from the whole diplomatic body. It is reported that the anti-foreign Ying-kwan is to be made responsible and that extreme measures are to be taken against him. Knowing the temper of the troops and the looseness of the discipline, Mr. Kinder, the Engineer-in-chief, called in the whole European staff, and by Tuesday night eighteen engineers and foreign officials were safe in Tientsin.

The whole incident forms a curious commentary on the absurd position assumed a month ago by the Imperial Chinese Government about the indignity and loss of face caused by the presence of Legation guards in Peking. I may state that it is within my knowledge that at the very time the Yamen was violently protesting, one or two still more prominent members of the Government were privately expressing their satisfaction that the foreigners had taken the matter into their own hands. These officials feel no confidence either in the ability or honesty of the City Police, and cherish a chronic fear of their old soldiery, and actually say so.

En passant I may mention that the lady who was assaulted under the escort of Mr. Mortimore in Peking a month ago was Mrs. Beeton, of

Macao. The fact was not published at the time for fear of unnecessarily alarming her family and friends in the South. Her many friends will be glad to know that she behaved with the rarest courage and judgment, and by her presence of mind in insisting that Mr. Mortimore should share the protection of her cart, she probably averted a much more serious issue to the mob violence.

Jung Lu, who is still the Commissioner of Coast Defence and Generalissimo of Northern Forces, although he has ceased to be Viceroy of Chih-li, is said to be about to raise a Prætorian Guard; it is to number 1,000 and is to be drilled and equipped either by Russian or French officers. Those conversant with Roman or Turkish history will say *absit omen*.

The political re-action is subsiding in the capital; it is suspected, and with good reason, that hints have been given by various legations that the Conservatives would find it expedient to cease their persecutions. A fortnight ago three officious censors submitted a list of those whom they thought should be proscribed on account of their Reform tendencies and sympathies; the Dowager snubbed them and, telling them to attend to other business, said that their list contained names of men as loyal as themselves and far more serviceable to the state.

Chang Yin-huan, contrary to expectation, has not been molested so far. It was given out with great precision that he was to get his *coup de grace* at Polo's Bridge, then at Tunchia; all we know is that before he left Peking he almost denuded Kierulff's store of canned food and cooking gear, and that he is travelling *en grand seigneur*. Our last story of his exile is his son's contemptuous rejection of the food and presents assigned by the officials of a hsien through which the great man was passing. He sent them back, demanded better, and got them.

Lord Charles Beresford is here on his return journey. He was Sir Claude's guest for a week in Peking. While here on the up-journey he had chances of meeting our leading merchants; he took every opportunity that offered of furthering his mission. His lordship was and is the guest of Mr. Mackintosh at the Bank-house. He has been up the line to see Mr. Kinder at Tongshan, and is now consulting with the officials of the local Chamber of Commerce. Up to date he has delivered no public utterance, but has as usual won all hearts by his bonhomie and his breezy freshness of expression and common sense.

I cannot close this letter without a reference to the political refugee Kang Yau-wei. Like every Britisher in the East my sympathies are with intelligent and feasible reform, but just because this is the case, I am suspicious of visionaries. This man may have had the purest intentions in the world, but he is not of the kidney of which king's advisers should be made. By the untimely exercise of his influence he has shelved reform for an indefinite time in the capital, and has alienated the sympathy of all moderate natives. I have good reason for asserting that this man has not assimilated the real teaching of his benevolent foreign friends. He is not the paragon of political science a kindly disposed press would like to make out. Kang is not sufficiently adept as a ruler of men to know what is Utopian and what practicable. The penultimate straw in his case was an ineffably silly decree to which he persuaded Kwang Su—that his people should cut off their queues; this was actually signed, but not issued, when the Conservatives interfered. One could safely postulate that not even the will of a Peter the Great could have enforced so violent a change in sumptuary law and social custom; leaving out the deep symbolic and political influence of such a decree, such a gross piece of folly showed that China was surely about to be governed by the March hares and hatters. Reform by men of Kang's type would make confusion worse confounded. It is interesting to know that Kang's co-provincials up here, while as a rule sympathetic with reform, think him an odd combination of political visionary and self-seeker.

These same Cantonese express very considerable indignation at the official murder of Kang's brother, a fact which shows that the traditional view of family responsibility is becoming modified.

We are under our first cold snap, and socially are full of racing excitement.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The Government has issued a notice inviting tenders for the farming of the prepared opium duties at Canton, which have been hitherto collected by the Government at the rate of three candareens for every tael of opium.

General Sou, of Kwangsi, is going to establish a mint in Kwangsi for coining dollars in order to overcome the difficulties of paying wages to the railway workers, who have hitherto been paid in sycee instead of dollars. He has ordered four machines for striking dollars from a foreign country. He has also applied to the Canton Government for a loan of two machines temporarily.

It is said that H. E. Hu Tsau-wai, late Governor of Canton, was robbed by a gang of robbers while passing Nam-Hung Mountain with his attendants. The booty amounted to twenty thousand dollars and two of the servants were killed. The late Governor dare not report the case to the mandarins for fear that it might become known to the Peking Government, who would blame him, for he being a governor himself it would be said that his bad administration was the cause of so many robberies taking place.

An expectant Toatai surnamed Tsat has petitioned the Viceroy asking to be allowed to found a company to supply electric lights in all the districts of the prefectures of Kwangchan and Chinchuan. The Viceroy has instructed the directors of Sin-hau-kuk to report if the applicant is rich enough to undertake such an enterprise.

HONGKONG.

The Raub crushing for the last two months gave 2,183 oz. of smelted gold from 2,173 tons of stone crushed.

On Saturday Commander Hastings fined a Chinaman \$15, or 42 days, for attempting to convey a letter out of Victoria Gaol.

A fine of \$100 was imposed upon a tally-man on the Sai Kong, at the Magistracy on 9th Nov. for being in unlawful possession of 3,500 rounds of ammunition.

At the Magistracy on Saturday a boatman was fined \$150 for not having 5,000 cases of kerosine on board his cargo boat properly covered with a tarpaulin.

A seizure of 95 teals of opium was made on board the British steamer *Amara* at Saigon. Security for \$4,000 had to be given to the Customs before the vessel was allowed to leave.

The return of communicable diseases notified last week shows that there were two cases of enteric fever, one of which was on H.M.S. *Immortalité*, and one case of scarlet fever on H.M.S. *Barfleur*.

It is notified that the Queen has been pleased to give directions for the appointment of the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works, to be an official member of the Executive Council.

The Chinaman who had been arrested for embezzlement at the instance of Messrs. A. & S. Watson and Co. was brought up at the Magistracy on 4th Nov., when, owing to lack of evidence, the charge was withdrawn.

Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, are issuing a special series of Christmas cards reproduced in mezzotint from photographs of Chinese street scenes, etc. The cards are artistic and pleasing and will be highly appreciated by home friends.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the connecting road from Wanchai Gap to Wongneichung Gap has been named and will hereafter be known as "General Black's Link" and that the road from Plantation Road to Magazine Gap will be called "Barker's Road."

At noon on Thursday the dead body of a Chinaman was found on the seashore at Kennedy-town with a cut over the forehead. A post-mortem examination has been made, and it has been certified that the injury might have been caused either by a blow or a fall.

On Wednesday Inspector Moffat arrested Fernando José, a sergeant in the Portuguese forces at Macao, by virtue of a warrant charging him with larceny and desertion from his corps. He was entrusted with some money with which to pay his men, but lost it in gambling. The accused, who admitted the offence when brought up at the Magistracy on Thursday, was remanded, awaiting the Macao warrant.

At a regular meeting of the United Service Lodge, No. 1341, held on the 8th inst., the annual election of officers for the ensuing year took place, Bro. J. Bremner being elected Worshipful Master, Wor. Bro. H. J. Watson Treasurer, and Bro. J. R. Grimble Tyler.

At the Magistracy on 9th Nov. a postman was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for embezzling \$1.65 which he had collected on behalf of the department. A Chinaman was fined \$50 for infringing the exclusive right of the Postmaster General by conveying 27 letters from Hongkong to Canton on Tuesday.

On Wednesday afternoon a Chinaman went into an eating house in Queen's Road. He drank a cup of tea, and was about to bite a cake, when he fell down ill. He was picked up and conveyed to the Hospital. On his arrival there he was, however, found to be dead. A post mortem examination was ordered.

At the Magistracy on 9th Nov. a Chinawoman was charged with attempting to commit suicide. On the 2nd inst. she swallowed some "powfah" (stuff for the hair) and became seriously ill. Her mother-in-law gave her an emetic and she recovered. In reply to Commander Hastings, she said she attempted suicide because her husband struck her. She was discharged and advised to summon her husband for assault.

From the Kobe papers we learn that the 3rd November being the birthday of the Emperor of Japan, and no work being possible there on that day, it had been decided that the *Rosetta* would not call at Kobe this trip. This is in consequence of the new regulations under which on three days in the year, one of these days being the 3rd of November, no permits will be issued to open the Customs or to work cargo.

A boating accident occurred in the harbour on the 7th Nov. Three men from the *Empress of India* were out sailing in an open boat and were making for the Kowloon shore when a sudden squall capsized the little craft. The occupants were struggling in the water for about half-an-hour before they were eventually picked up by a sampan, but on being got on board they were apparently none the worse for their ducking.

Lam Ping, a coolie, was charged at the Magistracy on Saturday with assaulting a rigger named Li Shing. Complainant was going home on the 11th October, when he was stopped by defendant and others, who assaulted him with fighting irons. A day or two before he had dismissed some of them for incompetency. On P. C. Patterson coming on the scene the men decamped, but defendant was caught. Defendant was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

At the Magistracy on 8th Nov. Chan Fong, a ricksha coolie, was charged by a house boy with reckless driving and causing personal injury. Complainant said he was going along Queen's Road with his master's tiffin on Monday when defendant knocked against him and broke some bottles he was carrying, the bottles cutting his leg. Defendant did not call out to him. Defendant, who said he told complainant to clear out, was fined \$5, or 14 days, and also ordered to pay compensation.

A letter from H.B.M. Minister Resident and Consul-General for Siam, enclosing quarantine regulations for the port of Bangkok, is published in the *Gazette*. The letter is dated the 18th October and the preamble to the regulations reads:—"Whereas bubonic plague has now ceased to be epidemic in Swatow, but whereas the disease is now endemic in Hongkong and several Chinese ports." The previous regulations are therefore repealed and simple medical inspection substituted. But what authority has the Minister for saying that plague is endemic in Hongkong? The statement strikes us as a gross libel on the port.

On Thursday afternoon the foreign staff of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in Hongkong followed to their last resting place in the cemetery at Happy Valley the remains of Mr. Georg Felix Müller, a large number of personal friends being also present. Mr. Müller, who had been in charge of the Customs Station at Pakhoi since 1869 had been promoted to be Commissioner of Foochow. He was on his way to the latter place when he was taken ill and on his arrival in Hongkong on August 24 he was conveyed to the Peak Hospital, where he died on the 9th inst. Mr. Müller, was highly esteemed by his colleagues in the Customs.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the following gentlemen have been appointed to be Justices of the Peace for this colony:—James Middleton Beck, Herbert George Dowler, Geoffrey Charles Moxon, Hon. Robert Daly Ormsby, John Isaac Plummer, Walter Poata, William Joshua Saunders, Marcus Warre Slade, Dr. John Christopher Thomson, Edmund Singleton Whealler. The revised list of Justices shows that there are thirty-seven official and ninety-nine unofficial.

At the Magistracy on 9th Nov. a house boy named Cha Hung, who had been in the employ of Mrs. H. W. Bell, of Dunford, Peak, was charged with behaving in a disorderly manner and using abusive language. Mrs. Bell said that at five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon she was in the dining room when defendant was very abusive to her and disorderly, because she would not give him the tram ticket to go to Hongkong in the morning. When he came to take away the tea in the afternoon he said "Nonsense" to something she said, and he stamped his foot, used bad language, and tried to strike her. P. S. Clark said that on being called to Dunford he found defendant very much flushed. He had been drinking. A fine of \$15, or 14 days, was imposed.

A Canton correspondent writes:—"The commander and officers of H.M.S. *Rattler* sent a circular round on the 1st instant inviting the foreign residents of Shameen to be at the Bund to witness a display of fireworks from 9 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, 5th November, being Guy Fawkes Day. A large crowd, including many ladies, children, and servants gathered on the Bund by 9 p.m. on the day named. A Chinese boat had been hired for the fireworks, and at 9.15 p.m. the display commenced, and at every interval H.M.S. *Rattler* fired off rockets which fell in showers of green and red lights. The search light of the *Rattler* was also at work and caused much surprise to the Chinese as well as merriment to the fair sex when the light was turned on them. The commander and officers of the *Rattler* deserve the thanks of the community of Shameen for their courtesy in contributing a couple of delightful hours to their amusement. The *Rattler* left early on Sunday morning and H.M.S. *Plover* is coming up to take her place.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st October, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

| Banks. | Average Amount. | Specie in Reserve. |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China..... | \$2,534,743 | \$2,000,000 |
| Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. | 6,419,676 | 3,000,000 |
| National Bank of China, Limited | 449,538 | 150,000 |
| Total | \$9,403,957 | 5,150,000 |

A large audience assembled in the Theatre Royal on Wednesday evening for the purpose of witnessing a boxing tournament for the light-weight championship of Hongkong between Jack Dacey, of H.M.S. *Immortalité*, and Curley True, of H.M.S. *Grafton* (light-weight champion of Bermuda). Last year Dacey and another man fought, and a draw resulted, but the departure of the other man from the colony enabled Dacey to assume the title of "the light-weight champion of Hongkong." Several other events had taken place, and in consequence it was about 11 o'clock when Dacey and True faced each other. They had not been boxing more than two minutes, however, before True's second claimed a foul, and on the referee allowing the claim the contest came to an abrupt termination. With regard to the other events, Joe Whiting and W. Dawson, of the *Powerful*, gave an excellent exhibition of their powers as acrobats, an exhibition which was both amusing and clever. Toff Wall and J. Huttley, of the *Immortalité*, gave an exhibition of scientific club swinging, and Professor Geo. William Kirby (champion heavy-weight lifter of the Straits Settlements) also appeared on the stage. Three-round contests took place between W. Quinney and H. Chappell, Dan Duggan and Bob Wise, and Tom Wilson and Jimmy Lynes.

A ricksha coolie named Sang Yan appeared before Commander Hastings on 8th Nov. on the information of Sergeant Mellows, of the King's Own, for having "unlawfully and without reasonable cause refused when unemployed to accept hire on the 7th inst." Defendant pleaded not guilty, remarking, "I was driving a barbarian to the races." Complainant said he was returning from Happy Valley, and when close to No. 3 Police Station he saw defendant driving a public ricksha which was empty. Defendant was going east. Witness asked him to take him and he refused. He called a constable and gave him into custody. Defendant said, "I was going to Happy Valley to get a fare that I was going to drive back to the Cricket Ground." He was fined \$7, or 28 days, and for talking about barbarians he was fined \$5, or 14 days.

Lo Sang, tailor, and Li Fuk Shan, stone-cutter, were charged before Commander Hastings on 8th Nov. with keeping a common gaming house at No. 8 A, Shui Shan, and 26 other men were charged with gambling in the said house. P. C. 180 said that on Monday night he went in plain clothes to the house in question. First defendant had a po-tze box and second defendant was acting as cronprier. He arrested them and saw the others arrested. The other men were clustered round the table playing po-tze. Money was on the table. Sergeant Garrod said that by virtue of the warrant produced he visited the house in question in company with a number of police in plain clothes. He shut the door and saw defendants arrested. He seized the gambling implements. The house was not a dwelling house; it was only used for gambling. First defendant said, "I am a tailor and went there to collect money." Second defendant said, "I am a stonecutter; I went there to call my brother." First and second defendants were each fined \$25, or two months. The rest were fined \$2 each, or 10 days.

A concert in aid of the Hongkong Benevolent Society should have been held on the Volunteer Parade Ground on Saturday evening, but in consequence of the inclemency of the weather in the early part of the day it was decided to hold it in the City Hall, where a large audience assembled. Through the courtesy of Lt. Col. Rowlandson and the officers of the King's Own, the Band of the regiment was in attendance, and opened the programme with "William Tell," subsequently playing "The Geisha," "Zampa," and "La Cigale." Messrs. Mirow, Grace, and Wacker sang the trio "Queen of the night," and Messrs. Mirow, Hill, Grace, and Wacker gave "How dear to me the hour" (Pinsuti) and "When evening's twilight" (Hatton), the latter taking exception, ally well. Miss Fullerton, who made her first appearance, gave a splendid rendering of "She wandered down the mountain side," and in response to a hearty recall substituted "Dear heart." Miss Murray Bain was recalled for "The promise of life," which she sang nicely. Mr. W. E. Crow was heard at his best in "The Bandolero" (Leslie Stewart), which so pleased the audience that they insisted on his appearing again, when he gave a highland love lament. A banjo solo was contributed by Bandsman Carter, and Corporal Williams created much merriment by his singing of the comic songs "A slight mistake on the part of my valet" and "Fancy balls," both of which were encored.

MISCELLANEOUS.

H.E. Hui Wan-uzn, alias Hui Ying-kwai, an ex-President of the Board of Rites and a native of Canton, who has been appointed Viceroy of Fukien and Chekiang, was entertained by the Canton authorities at a large farewell banquet in the Kwong Nga City Library on the 3rd November on the eve of his departure for Peking for an Imperial audience.

On 4th November a fire occurred at Canton not far from Shameen. In consequence of the recent alarm the mandarins took particular precautions in sending soldiers for the protection of the settlement. The fire was confined to the house in which it originated, a lantern shop, but it is reported that a good deal of looting took place in the neighbourhood, and that several persons were wounded while endeavouring to defend their property.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI, 5th November.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular).—Our last "printed" tea advices were under date 24th ultimo. Black Tea.—There is no change to report either in the volume of business done or in the values obtained.

Settlements reported are:—

Ningchow ... 2,468 ½-chts. at Tls. 15½ to 22 a picul.
Hohow 236 " " 16½ " "
Wenchow ... 349 " " 15 to 16 " "
Oonam 405 " " 14 to 19 " "

3,458 ½-chests.

Stock, 4,248 ½-chests, against 11,545 half-chests at same date last year.

Green Tea.—Pingsuey.—Further purchases and shipments on native account are reported at about the previous scale of prices. Country.—As was to be anticipated the comparatively encouraging advices from London in contradistinction to the gloomy telegrams from the United States have had their effect on the destination of many of the settlements, and London export figures have run up rather rapidly. The growing conviction that the 10 cents duty in the United States will not be removed this season is giving more hope of an early improvement in the markets there, and the bulk of latest settlements will probably be shipped to American ports. There is a daily business passing without much animation, and barely of sufficient size to keep up prices. In some cases offers which were refused a fortnight ago have been accepted, but any lower offers are generally refused. Suppliers are drawing towards a close. Hysons.—The market has been quiet, but Tenmen are not forcing their holdings.

Settlements reported are:—

½-chts.
Pingsuey ... 3,901 at Tls. 21 to 27 a picul.
Moyune 10,450 " 18 to 25½ " "
Tienkai 7,105 " 18½ to 33 " "
Fychow 557 " 16½ to 18 " "
Local packed 636 " 20 " "

24,649 ½-chts.

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

| 1898-99. | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------|--|
| | Settlements. | Stock. | |
| | ½-chts. | ½-chts. | |
| Pingsuey | 35,757 | 15,938 | |
| Moyune | 59,180 | | |
| Tienkai | 53,859 | 38,348 | |
| Fychow | 13,814 | | |
| Local packed | 13,781 | 2,684 | |
| Total | 176,891 | 56,970 | |
| 1897-98. | | | |
| | Settlements. | Stock. | |
| | ½-chts. | ½-chts. | |
| Pingsuey | 71,125 | 32,954 | |
| Moyune | 58,712 | | |
| Tienkai | 73,341 | 15,498 | |
| Fychow | 21,570 | | |
| Local packed | 15,727 | 1,009 | |
| Total | 250,475 | 49,461 | |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

| | 1898-99 | 1897-98 |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Hankow and Shanghai | 10,500,807 | 11,611,617 |
| Foochow | 11,636,074 | 11,653,951 |
| Amoy | 524,811 | 594,759 |
| Canton | 3,952,153 | 4,919,452 |
| | 26,613,845 | 28,779,782 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

| | 1898-99 | 1897-98 |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Shanghai | 10,894,803 | 16,287,615 |
| Amoy | 7,549,648 | 10,729,432 |
| Foochow | 5,876,852 | 6,771,076 |
| | 24,321,303 | 23,788,123 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

| | 1898-99 | 1897-98 |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Yokohama | 21,035,716 | 23,351,959 |
| Kobe | 12,186,816 | 14,322,202 |
| | 33,222,532 | 27,673,161 |

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

| | 1898-99 | 1897-98 |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| | lbs. | lbs. |
| Shanghai and Hankow ... | 22,676,902 | 19,375,665 |

SILK.

CANTON, 28th October.—Tsateles and Re-reels.—Business has been checked by the advance of exchange. Re-reels have been in fair demand and we think that a good business could be done if dealers were to give way somewhat. Filatures.—Remained almost neglected during the fortnight, with the exception of good and best chops finest and fine sizes, but owing to firmness of holders and the advance of exchange transactions remained very limited. From prices paid we quote: \$805 for Kwong Shun Caeong 11/13, \$790 for Wing Wo Lun and Wing King Lun 9/11, \$775 for Kun King Lun 9/11 \$770 for Kwong Wo Tai 11/13, and Kwong Shun Tai 10/12, \$765 for Kwong Lun Fung 11/13, \$725 for Kwong Lun Fung 14/16 S. B., \$705 for Wing Wo Loong 13/15, \$695 for Chun Sun Hang 16/20, \$675/640 for Yee Wo Lun and Loong Kee 11/13 and 13/15, \$650 for Yee Wo Cheong 18/22. Short-reels.—For America have been in little enquiry. Waste.—A shadow weaker, with little demand.

SHANGHAI, 5th November.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—The tone of the home markets is firm, and quotations are unchanged. Raw Silk.—The market is very quiet and holders, whilst not anxious to sell, are readier to meet buyer's ideas. Yellow Silk.—Settlements are about 125 bales, price on the whole steady. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, October 29th to November 4th, are: 1,101 bales White, 805 bales Yellow, and 76 bales Wild Silks. Re-reels and Filatures.—Nothing doing. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 1,371 bales to the Continent, 862 bales to America, and 59 bales to England. Wild Silks.—Market very quiet. Waste Silks.—Settlements are on a very small scale, and only include:

| | at Tls. |
|--|------------------------|
| 100 Tussah Waste 60 p c. No. I, 40 p c. No. II | 24 |
| 50 Shantung Waste | 26½ |
| Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/9½; Freight Tls. 7.80 per bale. | |
| Taysam.—9 by 12 Moss, Double Butterfly 1 | per picul. 9/10 |
| Green Stork 2 | 407½ 9/10 |
| Yellow Silk.—Meeyang | 307½ a 337½ 7/6 a 8/2½ |
| " Foojung | 265 a 327½ 6/6 a 8/0 |
| " Kopun | 295 7/2½ |
| " Wongchow | 262½ a 267½ 6/6 a 6/7½ |

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

| | 1898-99 | 1897-98 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| | bales. | bales. |
| Shanghai | 31,493 | 29,216 |
| Canton | 15,515 | 18,032 |
| Yokohama | 8,777 | 9,288 |
| | 55,785 | 51,536 |

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

| | 1898-99 | 1897-98 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| | bales. | bales. |
| Shanghai | 2,744 | 5,304 |
| Canton | 5,949 | 6,584 |
| Yokohama | 7,614 | 13,008 |
| | 16,307 | 24,891 |

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 11th November.—The market is less active and prices have declined. Quotations for Formosa are \$47.50 to \$48.00. Sales, 300 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 11th November.—The market has been quieter and prices have given way. Quotations are:—

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White... | \$7.80 to 7.83 per picul. |
| do. " 2, White... | 7.45 to 7.50 " |
| Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... | 5.10 to 5.15 " |
| do. " 2, Brown... | 5.00 to 5.05 " |
| Swatow, No. 1, White... | 7.60 to 7.65 " |
| do. " 1, White... | 7.35 to 7.40 " |
| Swatow, No. 1, Brown... | 4.85 to 4.90 " |
| do. " 2, Brown... | 4.80 to 4.85 " |
| Foochow Sugar Candy | 11.60 to 11.65 " |
| Shekloong | 10.00 to 10.05 " |

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Ulysses*, sailed on the 1st November. For London:—6,387 packages tea, 40 cases essential oil, 386 cases shells, 50 cases Chinaware, 21 cases blackwoodware, 2 cases

curios, 26 cases cigars, 420 cases cassia, 379 cases and 220 cases preserves, 30 bales pierced cocoons, 2 bales hemp, 50 bales feathers, 13 bags ore, and 16 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—275 bales waste silk. For London and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—8 cases cassia. For Manchester:—200 bales waste silk, 19 cases cigars, and 1 package yarn. For Liverpool:—1 case effects, 10 cases cigars, 23 cases cotton thread, and 2,949 bales hemp. For Glasgow:—3 cases furniture. For Dundee:—75 cases ginger. For Hamburg:—4 cases shells. For Antwerp:—10 cases bristles. For New York:—20 cases essential oil.

Per Amer. ship, *Josephus*, sailed on the 31st October. From Hongkong for New York:—10,800 rolls matting, 3,245 ½-chests tea, 2,815 boxes satin plam leaf fans, 1,500 boxes common plam leaf fans, 1,250 packages firecrackers, 1,000 bales and 80 boxes cassia broken, 500 bales and 300 boxes cassia lignea, and 42 boxes bamboo fans.

Per steamer *Sydney*, sailed on the 5th November. For France:—404 bales raw silk, 20 cases silk, 35 cases essential oil, 9 cases effects, 2 cases flowers, 23 cases Chinaware, 25 cases staranised, 1 case China ink, and 50 bales waste silk. For London:—50 bales raw silk, and 2 cases silk piece goods.

Per German steamer *Sachsen*, sailed on the 9th November. For Singapore:—2,800 bags flour. For Colombo:—3 cases merchandise. For Smyrna:—10 cases essential oil. For Tripoli:—70 cases cassia. For Genoa:—225 bales raw silk, 101 bales waste silk, 50 packages tea, 18 bales pierced cocoons, 15 cases essential oil, 1 case sundries, 1 case rum, and 1 roll matting. For Barcelona:—133 bales canes. For Antwerp:—250 packages tea, 65 rolls matting, 65 bales rattancores, 14 cases merchandise, 12 cases Chinaware, 10 cases bristles, 2 cases cigars, and 1 case silks. For Antwerp and/or Hamburg:—50 bales feathers. For Amsterdam:—20 cases Chinaware. For Rotterdam:—8 cases cigars. For Bremen:—54 rolls matting, 9 packages tea, 7 cases cigars, 7 cases merchandise, and 6 boxes ginger. For Hamburg:—50 boxes staranised, 13 cases merchandise, and 1 bale feathers. For London:—100 bales waste silk, and 10 cases essential oil.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 11th November.—Bengal.—There was a spurt in prices early in the interval, when New Patna and New Benares were dealt in, at \$810, but latterly a decline has set in, rates closing nominally at \$800 for both descriptions.

Malwa.—There has been very little business done during the past week, and rates are practically unchanged. Current quotations are as under:—

New \$750 with allowance to 1 catty.
Old (2/3 yrs.) \$780 " " ½ to 2½ " "
" (4/6 ") \$820 " " 2½ to 3½ " "
" (7/8 ") \$840 " " 0 to 3½ " "
Persian.—A fair amount of business has been transacted in this drug during the interval, and prices close at \$640 to \$710 for Paper wrapped, and at \$550 to \$630 for Oily.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| New Patna | 1,504 chests |
| New Benares | 239 " |
| Old Benares | 27 " |
| Malwa | 480 " |
| Persian | 745 " |

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

| DATE. | PATNA. | | BENARES. | | MALWA. | |
|---------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|
| | New. | Old. | New. | Old. | New. | Old. |
| 1898. | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Nov. 5 | 795 | — | 795 | — | 750 | — |
| Nov. 6 | 800 | — | 800 | — | 750 | — |
| Nov. 7 | 810 | — | 810 | — | 750 | — |
| Nov. 8 | 810 | — | 810 | — | 750 | — |
| Nov. 9 | 810 | — | 805 | — | 750 | — |
| Nov. 10 | 805 | — | 805 | — | 750 | — |
| Nov. 11 | 800 | — | 805 | — | 750 | — |

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 11th November.—Moderate business as steady rates. Stock, about 8,200 bales.

Bombay 15.00 to 15.25 picul.
Kurrachee to " "

Bengal (New), Rangoon, } 16.00 to 17.00 picul.
and Dacca.....
Shanghai and Japanese... 19.00 to 19.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo... 19.00 to 19.50 "
Madras (Best)..... " to "
Sales: 1,300 bales Bengal (New), Rangoon, and
Dacca.

RICE.

Hongkong, 11th November.—The market continues firm and prices are still advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....\$2.30 to 2.35
" Round, good quality..... 2.45 to 2.50
" Long 2.70 to 2.75
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ... 2.45 to 2.50
" Garden, " No. 1 ... 2.30 to 2.35
" White 3.35 to 3.60
" Fine Cargo 3.70 to 3.75

COALS.

Hongkong, 11th November.—Market continues quiet sales include 4,000 tons Cardiff ex. Godown at \$21 to \$22, 2,000 tons Japanese ex. ship and Godown at \$8 to \$10.25 and 5,000, tons Japanese to arrive at \$8.50. Quotations are:—

Cardiff\$19.00 to 20.00 exship, nominal
Australian 10.00 to 10.50 ex ship, "
Miki Lump } 9.00 to 10.00 nominal
and Small }
Mojji Lump ... 8.00 to 9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double } 1.00 to — ex Godown
screened..... }
Hongay Lump ... 8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust... 5.50 to —
Briquettes ... 10.00 to —

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 11th November.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—1,600 bales No. 10 at \$67 to \$84, 350 bales No. 12 at \$75.50 to arrive to \$82, 150 bales No. 16 at \$82, 500 bales No. 20 at \$86 to \$88. Japanese Yarn.—100 bales No. 20 at \$37. Grey Shirtings.—250 pieces 10 lbs. Stag Chop at \$3.85, 250 pieces Two Stags at \$3.70, 250 pieces 10 lbs. 2 Stags Chop at \$3.70, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. V. V. at \$2.92, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Chair Chop at \$1.87. White Shirtings.—250 pieces Blue Dragon at \$4.95, 250 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.85. T-Cloths.—300 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. C. C. at \$3.05, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. C. C. at \$3.05, 250 pieces Blue Dragon at \$4.95. Drills.—300 pieces 14 lbs. Buffalo at \$3.70, 300 pieces 14 lbs. Peacock at \$3.90, 300 pieces 14 lbs. No. 250 at \$3.50, 150 pieces 14 lbs. Buffalo at \$3.70. METALS.—Nail Rods, Iron.—10,000 bundles Belgian No. 1/6 at \$3.80, 12,000 bundles No. 1/6 at \$3.80, 13,600 bundles No. 1/6 at \$3.85. Round Iron bars.—1,000 piculs at \$1.

COTTON YARN, per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s..... 62.00 to 96.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24..... 99.00 to 106.00
" 22 to 24.....100.00 to 107.00
" 28 to 32.....112.00 to 118.00
" 38 to 42.....121.00 to 128.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS, per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. 1.70 to 1.80
7lbs. 1.92 to 2.00
8.4 lbs. 2.30 to 3.05
9 to 10 lbs. 3.20 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.30 to 2.50
58 to 60 .. 2.70 to 3.35
64 to 66 .. 3.45 to 4.30
Fine 4.30 to 7.00
Book-folds. 3.70 to 5.60
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ... 0.64 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 1.52 to 1.72
7lbs. (32 ..) .. 1.85 to 2.10
6lbs. (32 ..) .. 1.62 to 1.82
7lbs. (32 ..) .. 2.03 to 2.75
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 2.35 to 3.20
Drills, English—40 yds., 13 1/2 to 14lbs 3.65 to 5.05

FANCY COTTONS
Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8lbs. 1.50 to 4.35
Brocades—Dyed 3.00 to 5.00
Damasks 0.12 to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted 0.08 to 0.14
Velvets—Black. 22 in..... 0.20 to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in. 0.17 to 0.18

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.45 to 0.90
WOOLLENS, per yard

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.60 to 1.40
German 1.15 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths. 1.25 to 5.25

Long Ells—Scarlet per piece 6.30 to 8.25
Assorted 6.40 to 8.31
Camlets—Assorted 12.25 to 31.50
Lastings—30 yds., 81 inches, } 10.00 to 20.00
Assorted }
Orleans—Plain 7.00 to 8.50
Blankets—8 to 12lbs. per pair 8.50 to 14.00

METALS

Iron—Nail Rod per picul 3.90 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar ... 4.10 to —
Swedish Bar 6.00 to —
Small Round Rod 4.45 to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in..... 5.60 to —
Wire 15/25 9.00 to —
Old Wire Rope 1.50 to 2.50
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop ... 8 65 to —
Australian 8.60 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/20 oz. 33.00 to —
Vivian's, 14/20 oz. 32.50 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz. 32.00 to —
Composition Nails 46.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs 33.00 to —
Tiles 33.50 to —
Tin — to —
Tin-Plates per box. 6.00 to —
Steel 1/2 to 1 per cwt. case 5.40 to —

SUNDRIES

Quicksilver per picul 187.00 to —
Window Glass per box 4.65 to —
Kerosene Oil per 10-gal. cases 2.13 to —

SHANGHAI, 5th November.—(From Messrs Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report.)—The chief features of the week have been the continued enquiry for American goods and the inception of the an extraordinary demand for Yarns. Of the former spot cargo has received more attention, especially in Sheetings, although there have been some additional purchases for the late Spring delivery. The accuracy of the estimate we gave in our last of 100,000 bales as the aggregate of the forward transactions negotiated during the previous fortnight has been questioned in one or two quarters. We are inclined to keep to it, however, notwithstanding that a telegram from New York in reply to a special enquiry only puts it at 83,000 bales since the beginning of October. We should say, from the individual inquiries we have made, that up to date the total purchases amount to fully 135,000 bales, including the Canadian cloths, which are always looked upon here as American. The available supply here at present is greatly reduced and there should be very small stocks of these goods to carry through the Winter. The same cannot be said of Manchester makes, which have again been almost neglected, both as regards fresh purchases and clearances of former sales. The Northern markets continue active, but towards the close there is a decided fall in the demand for Newchwang; in fact there is a disposition to resell goods bought for that market, but not yet shipped, on account of the unfavorable Exchange now ruling between the two Ports. Tientsin is in want of goods and the bulk of the purchases this week are undoubtedly for that market, where stocks have got very low. Chefoo has assisted to a certain extent, but Yarns appear to enjoy most favour there. It is reported that the Yellow River is once more devastating the country through which it flows, which, together with the recent disastrous fire in Hankow, may to some extent account for the quietness of English makes, as they are largely consumed in those districts. The Auction results do not indicate any particular activity in the local or neighbouring markets. The Yarn market presents a very active appearance and a decided advance in prices has been established for all Spinnings. The local Mills have sold freely and greatly reduced their stocks, in fact all but a few of the higher counts have been disposed of.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 11th November.

ON LONDON.—
Telegraphic Transfer 1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/11 1/2

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.50 1/2

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 1.98 1/2

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 47 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight 48 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145 1/2
Bank, on demand 146

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145 1/2
Bank, on demand 146

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight 72 1/2

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand 4 1/2 % pm.

ON MANILA.—

On demand 2 1/2 % pm.

ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand 1 % pm.

SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate 10.13
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael 53.50

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 11th November.—Business continues dull without anything of importance to report. Rates have ruled steady in most cases, and with an upward tendency in some, the market closing steady to firm.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have changed hands in small lots at 22 1/2 per cent. premium, more shares being wanted at that rate. Nationals have found further buyers at \$17.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at \$60 and Cantons are enquired for at the increased rate of \$137 1/2 without bringing out sellers. Unions have been negotiated at \$225, and Straits at \$74. The Northern Insurances remain dull and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs continue in demand and sales are reported at \$925. Chinas remain dull at \$88 without business.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands at \$27 1/2, \$27 1/2, and \$27 1/2 in small lots. Indo-Chinas continue neglected but steady at \$60 with only small sales. Douglasses are obtainable at \$53 1/2 after sales at that rate. China Manilas have found buyers at \$80 and China Mutuels are still in demand at quotations without sales.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars changed hands in the early part of the week at \$165 and later at \$166, at which latter more shares are wanted. Luzons have found further buyers at \$45 1/2.

MINING.—Punjoms have improved to \$6 1/2 with sales at that, \$5.75, and \$6, closing at \$6 buyers. Balmorals continue quiet and out of the market. Olivers "B" have improved to \$5, after a fair business at \$4 1/2 and \$4 1/2. Jelesbus and Raubs have changed hands in small lots at quotations. Great Eastern and Caledonians have improved to \$7.75, with fair sales at \$7, \$7 1/2, and \$7 1/2, market closing firm at \$7.75.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have found buyers in small lots at 263 and 262 per cent. prem., market closing rather quieter at 261. Kowloon Wharves have been negotiated at \$70 and close in demand at that rate. Wanchais have changed hands at \$41.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have again been placed at \$75 and are still wanted at that rate. Hotels, sales and buyers at \$58 to \$59. Humphreys Estates have been enquired for at \$84 without leading to business, but at a slight advance shares are obtainable. West Points have been again placed at \$20.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have advanced to \$28 for old and \$16 1/2 for new after sales at \$27 1/2 and \$27 1/2 and at \$16 and \$16 1/2, market closing steady at the higher rate. Watsons have been negotiated at \$12 1/2 and \$12 1/2, and Electrics at \$9 1/2, \$9 1/2, and \$10, the latter closing with buyers at \$10 1/2. China Gas shares have been done at \$126, Ropes at \$170, China Providents at \$10 and \$10.25, and Tramways at \$115 1/2.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

| COMPANY. | PAID UP. | QUOTATION. |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Banks. | | |
| Hongkong & Shanghai... | \$125 | \$105, sal. & buyers. |
| China & Japan, pref. | 25 | 224 1/2 prem= |
| Do, ordinary... | 24 | nominal |
| Do, deferred... | 21 | \$1, buyers |
| Natl. Bank of China | | \$5.5a. |
| B. Shares | 28 | \$17 |
| Founders Shares... | 23 | \$17, sales |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A. ... | 21 | nominal |
| Campbell, Moore & Co. | 10 | \$8 |
| China Prov. L. & M. ... | 10 | \$10 25, buyers |
| China Sugar | 100 | \$166, buyers. |
| Cotton Mills. | | |
| Ewo... | Tls. 100 | Tls. 71, buyers |
| International | Tls. 100 | Tls. 75, buyers |
| Laou Kung Mow ... | Tls. 100 | Tls. 72 1/2 |
| Soychee | Tls. 500 | Tls. 450 |
| Yahloong | Tls. 100 | Tls. 52 1/2 |
| Hongkong | \$70 | \$50, sellers |
| Dairy Farm Co. | \$8 | \$5 |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo. ... | \$25 | \$30, sellers |
| Green Island Cement... | \$10 | \$28 |
| Do, New Issue | \$5 | \$16 1/2, buyers |
| H. & China Bakery ... | \$50 | \$33 |
| Hongkong & C. Gas ... | \$10 | \$126, sales |
| Hongkong Electric ... | \$10 | \$10, buyers |
| H. H. L. Tramways ... | \$100 | \$115 1/2, sal. & buyers |
| Hongkong Hotel | \$50 | \$59, sales & buyers |
| Hongkong Ice | \$25 | \$111, buyers |
| H. & K. Wharf & G. ... | \$50 | \$70, buyers |
| Hongkong Rope | \$50 | \$170, sal. & buyers |
| H. & W. Dock | \$125 | 260 p. ct. prem.= |
| Insurance. | | |
| Canton | \$50 | \$137.50, buyers |
| China Fire | \$20 | \$88, sellers |
| China Traders' | \$25 | \$60, buyers |
| Hongkong Fire | \$50 | \$325, buyers |
| North-China | \$25 | Tls. 180 |
| Straits | \$20 | \$7 1/2, sales & sellers |
| Union | \$50 | \$225, buyers |
| Yangtze | \$60 | \$129 |
| Land and Building. | | |
| H. Land Investment. | \$50 | \$75, sales & buyers |
| Humphreys Estate... | \$10 | \$8.50, sal. & buyers |
| Kowloon Land & B. | \$30 | \$17 1/2, buyers |
| West Point Building | \$40 | \$20, sales |
| Luzon Sugar | \$100 | \$45 1/2, buyers |
| Mining. | | |
| Charbonnages | Fce. 500 | \$10, sellers |
| Great E. & O'donian | \$5 | \$7.75, buyers |
| Jebeu | \$5 | \$4, sellers |
| New Balmoral | \$1 | 30 cts. |
| Do, Preference | \$1 | 45 cts. |
| Oliver's Mines, A. ... | \$5 | \$8, sellers |
| Do, B. ... | \$2 1/2 | \$5, sellers |
| Punjom | \$5 | \$6.25, sellers |
| Do, Preference... | \$1 | \$1.50 |
| Rauha | 14s. 10d. | \$37, sales |
| New Amoy Dock | \$6 1/2 | \$18 1/2, buyers |
| Steamship Coy. | | |
| China and Manila... | \$50 | \$80, sales & buyers |
| China Mutual Ord... | \$10 | \$9. 10s, buyers |
| Do, Preference... | \$10 | \$5 10s, buyers |
| Do, Do. | 25 | \$3 |
| Douglas S. S. Co. ... | \$50 | \$53 1/2 |
| H. Canton and M. ... | \$15 | \$27, sellers |
| Indo-China S. N. ... | \$10 | \$60 |
| Star Ferry | \$7 1/2 | \$9.50, sal. & buyers |
| Tebrau Planting Co. ... | \$5 | \$5, sellers |
| Do. | \$2 | \$3, sellers |
| United Asbestos | \$2 | \$1.40, buyers |
| Do. | \$10 | \$10, nominal |
| Wanchai Warehouse Co. | \$37 1/2 | \$41, sales |
| Watson & Co., A. S. ... | \$10 | \$12.75 |

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 7th November.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.—Since the last issue of this circular the Race Holidays have intervened and in consequence business has been more or less at a standstill, some few small lots of shares only having changed hands. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares are quoted here at 222 1/2 per cent. premium. Shipping.—No Shanghai transactions for shipping stocks are reported. Mining.—No business transacted. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co.'s shares were sold at Tls. 120. Industrial.—International Cotton shares changed hands at Tls. 76 1/2. Ewo Cotton shares at Tls. 70 and Ya Loong Cotton shares at Tls. 52.50. Miscellaneous.—Three or four lots of Hall and Holtz shares have changed hands at \$37-38, probably in anticipation of the \$2 dividend which has been declared and is payable on the 9th inst. Langkat Tobacco shares have been sold at Tls. 120 and Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 66. Loans.—There are enquiries for sellers of Municipal Debentures 1896 6 per cent. issue and of Waterworks Debentures 1894 6 per cent. issue.

Quotations are:—

| | |
|---|--|
| BANKS. | |
| Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$395.00. | |
| Bank of China and Japan, defd.—\$5.50. | |
| Do, ordinary.—Nominal. | |
| National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$17.00. | |
| COTTON MILLS. | |
| Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70.00. | |
| Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—50.00. | |
| International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00. | |
| Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70.00. | |
| Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 450.00. | |
| DOCKS, WHARVES, & CO. | |
| Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal. | |
| Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00. | |
| Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$71. | |
| Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$447.50. | |
| S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 160.00. | |
| Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 80.00. | |
| Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 120.00. | |
| INSURANCES. | |
| Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$128.00. | |
| China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$90.00. | |
| China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$58.00. | |
| Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$315.00. | |
| North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 180.00. | |
| Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$7.50. | |
| Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$210. | |
| Yangtze Insurance Assn., Ltd.—\$130. | |
| LANDS. | |
| Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$75. | |
| Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$8 1/2. | |
| Shanghai Land Invest Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 86.00. | |
| MINING. | |
| Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.00. | |
| Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.60. | |
| Bau's Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$36.35. | |
| Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 2.25. | |
| SHIPPING. | |
| China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 70.00. | |
| Do, ordinary, 2 1/2 paid.—Tls. 28.00. | |
| Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 145.00. | |
| Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$50.00. | |
| Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$27.50. | |
| Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 44.00. | |
| Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 165.00. | |
| Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 185.00. | |
| Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00. | |
| SUGAR. | |
| China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$167.00. | |
| Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$45.00. | |
| Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 42.50. | |
| MISCELLANEOUS. | |
| American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 65.00. | |
| Central Stores, Ltd.—\$10.00. | |
| China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 51.00. | |
| Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$98.00. | |
| Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$60.00. | |
| Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 31.00. | |
| Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 400.00. | |
| Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 210.00. | |
| Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 60. 0. | |
| Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 25.00. | |
| Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 90.00. | |
| Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 120.00. | |
| Do, New Issue.—Nominal. | |
| Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 25.00. | |
| Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 66.00. | |
| Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.00. | |
| Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$12.25. | |

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 11th November.—Freights generally remain as about last quoted with very little demand in any direction.

Saigon to Hongkong, the rate is 10 cents per picul at which small carriers are wanted. To Java ports tonnage is being offered at 25 cents per picul.

From Bangkok to this the rate is nominally 15 cents inside and 10 cents outside the bar.

Newchwang to Canton, the season is practically over, the last settlement being at 29 cents per picul. To Amoy 26 cents per picul.

Hence to Japan, the best rate is 9/10 cents per picul.

Coal freights.—Mojito to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton; to Singapore, \$3.30 per ton, tonnage being in slight demand. Hongkong to this \$1.60 per ton.

Sailing tonnage.—Hence to New York, two vessels have been fixed, the rate paid being withheld. To Callao a small carrier is still wanted at about 22 1/2 d. per ton 50 cubic feet.

The following are the settlements:—

Rauce—American ship, 1,828 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Idani—Hawaiian barque, 1,178 tons, hence to New York, option Boston, private terms.

Wootan—German steamer, 1,201 tons, hence to London or Liverpool, £2,500 in full.

Canton—British steamer, 1,110 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 28 cents per picul.

Lokang—British steamer, 979 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 29 cents per picul.

Tordenskjold—Norwegian steamer, 904 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 29 cents per picul.

Bygdo—Norwegian steamer, 771 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 29 cents per picul.

Nord—Norwegian steamer, 767 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, 26 cents per picul.

Taisang—British steamer, 1,505 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.

Martha—German steamer, 1,580 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.35 per ton.

Lennox—British steamer, 2,361 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.

Benwulch—British steamer, 2,164 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.

Chunsang—British steamer, 1,413 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$3.10 per ton.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,251 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.60 per ton.

Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 788 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.60 per ton.

Swatow—German steamer, 724 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$4.50 lump sum.

Martha—German steamer, 1,580 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, 30 cents per picul.

Picciola—German steamer, 875 tons, hence to Nagasaki and Kobe, \$2,500 in full.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Taiyu—German steamer, 1,063 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Siegfried—German steamer, 908 tons, Saigon to Singapore, 14 cents per picul.

On Sang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, monthly, 1/1 months, \$12,000 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Chusan* (str.), *Canada* (str.), *Andalusia* (str.), *Bingo Maru* (str.), *Sarpedon* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Bayern* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Bingo Maru* (str.), *Caledonian* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Gaelic* (str.), *China* (str.), *Nippon Maru* (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of India* (str.).

For VICTORIA, B. C.—*Victoria* (str.).

For TACOMA.—*Victoria* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*John Sanderson* (str.), *B. F. Packard*, *Glenartney* (str.), *Eidsvold* (str.), *Reuce* (str.).

For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Stolberg* (str.), *Savoia* (str.), *Konigsberg* (str.), *Bamberg* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Australian* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

November—ARRIVALS.

5, Nanyang, German str., from Swatow.

5, Benlawers, British str., from London.

5, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.

5, Glenfalloch, British str., from Straits.

5, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.

5, Babelsberg, German str., from Kobe.

5, Independent, Ger. str., from Casiguran.

5, Quarta, German str., from Saigon.

5, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.

6, Archer, British cruiser, from Yokohama.

6, Bombay, British str., from Bombay.

6, Chiynen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

6, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F.isco.

6, Ghazee, British str., from Amoy.

6, Hohenzollern, Ger. str., from Yokohama.

6, Volute, British str., from Batoum.

6, Siegfried, German str., from Canton.

7, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., from Bangkok.

7, Sado Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.

7, Propontis, British str., from Singapore.

7, Decima, German str., from Saigon.

7, Rattler, British gunboat, from Canton.

7, Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.

8, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongkong.

8, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

8, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.

8, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.

8, Hsiping, Chinese str., from Newchwang.

9, Rosetta, British str., from Yokohama.

9, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.

9, Kaisow, British str., from Birkenhead.

9, Quarta, German str., from Canton.

9, Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Hankow.

9, Eidsvold, Norw. str., from New York.

9, Picciola, German str., from Newchwang.

9, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.

9, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Canton.

9, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.

10, Melbourne, French str., from Marseilles.

10, Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.

- 10, Peiyung, German str., from Iloilo.
- 10, Haimun, British str., from Trmsui.
- 10, Progress, German str., from Newchwang.
- 10, Toyo Maru, Jap. str., from Sorogagan.
- 10, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
- 10, Trym, Norwegian str., from Manila.
- 10, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
- 10, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Ballarat, British str., from London.
- 11, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 11, Jason, British str., from Liverpool.
- 11, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 11, Ariel, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
- 11, Candia, British str., from Yokohama.
- 11, Zweena, British str., from Samarang.
- 11, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
- 11, Andalusia, German str., from Shanghai.

November— DEPARTURES.

- 5, Sydney, French str., for Europe, &c.
- 5, Deuteros, German str., for Hongay.
- 5, Kashing, British str., for Samarang.
- 5, Machew, British str., for Hoihow.
- 5, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Bygdo, Norw. str., for Canton.
- 5, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
- 5, Bormida, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 5, Canton, British str., for London.
- 6, Broadmayne, British str., for Berandan.
- 6, Taiwan, British str., for Amoy.
- 6, Merionethshire, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 6, Nanyang, German str., for Swatow.
- 6, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
- 6, Tailee, German str., for Amoy.
- 6, Nanchang, British str., for Swatow.
- 6, Guthrie, British str., for Australia.
- 6, Powerful, British str., for Manila.
- 6, St. Paul, Amr. ship, for New Orleans.
- 6, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
- 7, Nanchang, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 7, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.
- 7, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
- 7, Orient, Austrian str., for Yokohama.
- 7, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
- 8, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
- 8, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Kinshu Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
- 8, Sado Maru, Jap. str., for London.
- 8, Independent, Ger. str., for Newchwang.
- 8, Hermes, Norw. str., for Canton.
- 8, Terrier, Norw. str., for Canton.
- 8, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 8, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Braemar, British str., for Yokohama.
- 9, Onsang, British str., for Wei-hai-wei.
- 9, Knivsberg, German str., for Manila.
- 9, Babelsberg, German str., for Hamburg.
- 9, Ghazee, British str., for Singapore.
- 9, Venus, British str., for Batavia.
- 9, Pronto, German str., for Touron.
- 9, Bombay, British str., for Kobe.
- 9, Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
- 9, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Quarta, German str., for Saigon.
- 9, City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. Francisco.
- 9, Hsiping, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 10, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Kaisow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Eldsvold, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, Braemar, British str., for Yokohama.
- 10, Onsang, British str., for Weihaiwei.
- 10, Siogfried, German str., for Saigon.
- 10, Picciola, German str., for Canton.
- 10, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
- 10, Volute, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Zafiro, Amr. des.-bt., for Manila.
- 11, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
- 11, Melbourne, French str., for Shanghai.
- 11, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
- 11, Wuotan, German str., for Colombo.
- 11, Progress, German str., for Canton.
- 11, Benlawers, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 11, Bygdo, Norw. str., for Newchwang.
- 11, Plover, British gunboat, for Iloilo.
- 11, Humber, British storeship, for Weihaiwei.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Nanyang*, from Swatow, Messrs. W. L. Skeet and Sit Kut Tung.
- Per *Benlawers*, from London, Mr. and Mrs. Kershaw and Mr. Lawrence.
- Per *Thales*, from Coast Ports, Mr. Arthur and Mr. Wenmill.
- Per *City of Peking*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. A. Olson, U.S.N., Lieut. C. F. Echols,

U.S.N., Mr. J. T. Cruikshank, Mrs. L. A. Beon, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Keen, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Wo Foy, Capt. W. Gordon, Messrs. Chong Fong, M. L. Colkon, C. M. Reynolds, Saml. Steel, Mrs. A. Forest, Messrs. J. W. Brown and Caldwell, Mrs. Caldwell, Miss Caldwell, Master Caldwell, and Mr. L. Flayelle.

Per *Hohenzollern*, from Yokohama, &c., Miss M. A. Brown, Mrs. Kleinwort and children, Misses Mair, Logan, White, Mrs. G. Lehmann, Consul Heinze, Mrs. Ewens, Mr. Jessen, Baron Maydell, Miss A. Robertson, Rev. and Mrs. Going and children, Messrs. J. H. Langlutge, G. Gangler, Rev. Foss, Mr. and Mrs. Stoffregen and child, Miss A. Jones, Colonel and Mrs. Gawrina, Messrs. M. Saturin, O. Schmidt, M. Voytasgerosky, Lieut. Thebanoff, Messrs. L. Rielle and H. van Waards.

Per *Phra C. C. Klao*, from Bangkok, &c., Mr. Giblin.

Per *Sado Maru*, from Kobe, Mrs. H. Cho, Messrs. Paul Blum, Isaacs and Pooley.

Per *Propontis*, from Singapore, 434 Chinese.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Stebbins.

Per *Sachsen*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mrs. Schomburg and child, Messrs. Schonemann, Grote, Rees, Summers, O. Bohm, Schapino, and Broeckmann; for Port Said, Eugen Count Zichy, Dr. E. Criki, and Mr. Carl Roschlappil; for Genoa, Mr. Otto Meyer, Miss Mathilde Pickler, Mr. Simpson, Mrs. Wellwood and family, and Mrs. Fumagalli; for Naples, Dr. G. Bergin and daughter; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Macray, Mrs. Moorhead and family, and Mr. Fleet; for Southampton, Messrs. Morrison and McLavy, Mrs. Laughton and children, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Thompson and family, Mr. Ernst Chant, Mrs. Ost and children, Miss Norris, Messrs. Ross and Brown; for Bremen, Mrs. Josefine Kluth and children, Messrs. A. Buckner, H. Altner, A. Lartz, A. Fritsche, and P. Kaphammel.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Han-nistad and two children, Mrs. Exterbrood, Capt. Eyles, Messrs. Bune, Schirazee, Chan Tuan, and Christmann; and 158 Chinese.

Per *Kaisow*, from Singapore, 360 Chinese.

Per *Rosetta*, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Reilly, Mr. and Mrs. Ordway, Mrs. Loo, Miss A. D. Thompson, Capt. Blyths, Misses Blyths (2), Messrs. R. Tathill, F. A. Pellow, W. H. Cook and H. George.

Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Miss Ly-saught, Messrs. Brownhill, Usin, Manuda, Tanaka, Hisano, and Yera.

Per *Melbourne*, from Hongkong for Bombay, Capt. M. and Miss Miguel de Mello; from Colombo, Messrs. Alsberg, C. Saglio, Pemberton, J. Staul, C. Pritzsche, C. Bickel, Ho Kai, Fui Koon, Mrs. Wong Ketcher, Messrs. Soon King and J. G. Jones; from Singapore, Mr. Pinckney, Mrs. Davis, Rev. Isidore Colange, Messrs. K. Susuki, S. Yomamoto, Soh Kin Boon, Ottomez, and C. H. Hakan; from Saigon, Mr. Francois Fournie, Mrs. Morcell Roman and daughter.

Per *Whampoa*, from Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss McCarty, Capt. O. Sullivan.

Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Gibbs and two children, Mrs. D. D. Van Valzah, Mrs. W. A. Nichols, Mrs. H. George, Mrs. George Lawless, Mrs. Quelch and infant, Mrs. S. T. Bacon, Mrs. Bauer, Misses Bauer and J. Gibbings, Lieut. J. E. Lombard, Messrs. A. Gibbings, W. Gibbings, David Samson, A. M. Knapp, A. B. Johnson, Louis Basch, Julius Gauer, and O. G. Roberts and 381 Chinese.

Per *Siam*, from Singapore, Mr. and Miss Nielsen.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai for London, Mr. and Mrs. Green, child and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Ridley, child and infant, Mr. and Mrs. W. Campbell, Messrs. C. P. Honsin, Steer, Hall, Mr. and Mrs. L. Mossop, Messrs. R. Frater, H. Frost, G. Pastorelli; for Marseilles, General Neproff, and Mr. F. Styar, for Sydney via Colombo, Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor, and Mr. J. Cooper; for Colombo, Miss Sherman; for Singapore, Mr. C. Campbell; for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bambridge, Miss Bambridge, Miss Curtis, Mr. MacKellar, Mr. and Mrs. A.

MacEwans, Messrs. C. Coutts, E. Brennan, S. J. Levy, M. Moses, F. Dredge, P. Sachse, C. Robinson, J. Leon, Mrs. B. Clarke, and Miss Clarke.

DEPARTED.

Per *Sydney*, for Marseilles, Lieut. and Mrs. M. Moline, Mr. J. Elizalde and nephew, Mr. L. Del Rosal, Colonel and Mrs. M. Tomé and child, Capt. and Mrs. M. Sta Ana and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. Ménant, Messrs. J. E. Ichase, J. F. Arias, R. S. Balleja, J. Blanch, J. Arnhold, Mr. and Mrs. J. Triana, Messrs. A. Callejon, F. Sanchez, J. Hervás, R. Vilar, Mr. and Mrs. M. Rubio and child, Mr. and Mrs. F. Mendizabal and child, Mr. L. Redondo, Mr. and Mrs. J. Luzarraga, Messrs. F. P. Hernandez, L. Alvarez, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Setna and child, Messrs. J. Malho, E. M. Camera, Mr. and Mrs. Galindo and 3 children, Mr. l'Abbé Negroux, and Mrs. Vedeau and child; for Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. M. Isaacs, Mr. J. B. Warden, Capt. A. Akin-Higgins, Capt. and Mrs. A. Delias; for Singapore, Messrs. A. Schmidt, J. B. Burris, Patten, E. R. P. Moon, Miss C. Parrish, and Mr. Leung Hon.

Per *Guthrie*, for Sydney, Mrs. Church and Mr. Johnson.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Manila, Messrs. Edwin Wildman, Luis Janca, Mr. and Mrs. Knott, Messrs. Bonito Gabasa, Teodora Fernandez, Felice Garcia, Mrs. Spitz and infant, Messrs. Moulchand, Teopandass, Mrs. Osori and child, Messrs. Wilson, Bjorstad, Charles P. Echolls, Samuel S. Stiel, Reichling, Macpherson, Henderson, Mrs. Bean, Messrs. J. A. Cruikshank, C. M. Reynolds, Henry Blum, H. G. Platt, J. McFetish, M. J. Kawabara, and J. Gilliland.

Per *Lyeemoon*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Lorok.

Per *Knivsberg*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Keen.

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